

Daily Works of a Catholic



Ignorance, denial, or doubt of the following dogmatic Creed ensures condemnation at the day of judgment; learn it well and profess it even in the face of certain death:

Whoever wills to be saved, before all things it is necessary that he holds the Catholic Faith. Unless a person keeps this Faith whole and undefiled, without doubt he shall perish eternally.

The Catholic Faith is this, that we worship one God in the Trinity, and the Trinity in unity, neither confounding the persons nor dividing the substance. For there is one person of the Father, another of the Son, and another of the Holy Spirit. But the Godhead of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is one, the glory equal, and the majesty co-eternal.

Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Spirit. The Father uncreated the Son uncreated and the Holy Spirit uncreated. The Father infinite, the Son infinite and the Holy Spirit infinite.

The Father eternal, the Son eternal and the Holy Spirit eternal. Yet they are not three eternals, but one eternal. As also they are not three uncreateds nor three infinities, but one uncreated and one infinite. Likewise the Father is almighty, the Son is almighty and the Holy Spirit is almighty.

Yet they are not three almighties, but one almighty. Likewise the Father is God, the Son is God and the Holy Spirit is God. Yet they are not three gods, but one God.

Likewise the Father is Lord, the Son is Lord and the Holy Spirit is Lord. Yet they are not three lords, but one Lord.

For just as we are compelled by the Christian truth to acknowledge each person by himself to be God and Lord, so we are forbidden by the Catholic religion to say there are three gods or three lords.

The Father is made by none, neither created nor begotten. The Son is from the Father alone; not made nor created, but begotten. The Holy Spirit is from the Father and the Son; not made nor created nor begotten, but proceeding.

So there is one Father, not three fathers; one Son, not three sons; one Holy Spirit, not three holy spirits. And in this Trinity nothing is before or after, nothing is greater or less; but the whole three persons are co-eternal together and co-equal.

So that in all things, as aforesaid, the unity in Trinity and the Trinity in unity is to be worshipped. Whoever, therefore, wishes to be saved, let him think thus of the Trinity.

It is also necessary for salvation to believe Faithfully the Incarnation of our lord Jesus Christ. The right Faith, therefore, is that we believe and confess that our lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, is God and man. God, of the substance of the Father, begotten before the ages; and man, of the substance of his mother, born in the world.

Perfect God, perfect man, subsisting of a rational soul and human flesh. Equal to the Father according to his Godhead, less than the Father according to his humanity. Although he is God and man, he is not two, but one Christ.

One, however, not by conversion of the Godhead into flesh, but by the taking of humanity into God. One altogether, not by confusion of substance, but by unity of person. For as a reasoning soul and flesh is one man, so God and man is one Christ.

He suffered for our salvation and descended into hell. On the third day he rose from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty. Thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead. At his coming all shall rise again with their bodies, and shall give an account of their own deeds. Those who have done good shall go into eternal life, but those who have done evil shall go into eternal fire.

This is the Catholic Faith. Unless a person believes it faithfully and firmly, he cannot be saved.

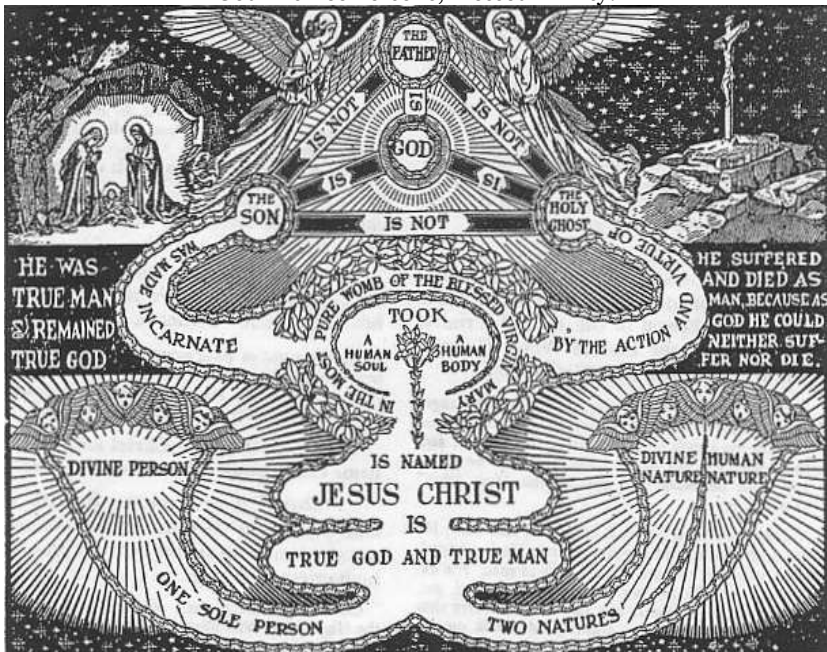
HOLY HOLY HOLY

Holy! Holy! Holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy! Holy! Holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, Blessed Trinity!

Holy! Holy! Holy! All the Saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Who was, and is, and evermore shall be.

Holy! Holy! Holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see;
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy! Holy! Holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy Name, in earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy! Holy! Holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, Blessed Trinity!



***May the most just, most high, and most amiable will of God be
done in all things, be praised, and magnified forever!***

All For Jesus, Through Mary

I give myself entirely to Mary in order to belong entirely to Jesus through her. I give my body with its senses and members; my soul with its faculties; my present material possessions and all I shall acquire in the future; my interior and spiritual possessions, that is, my merits, virtues and good actions of the past, the present and the future.

In other words, I give her all that I possess both in my natural life and in my spiritual life, as well as everything I shall acquire in the future in the order of nature, of grace, and of glory in heaven. This I do without any reservation, not even of a penny, a hair, or the smallest good deed. And I give for all eternity, she may dispose of it and make use of it according to the will of God, to which she is more conformed than any other creature. I neither ask or expect, in return for this, my lowly offering, and lowly service, any other reward than the honour of forever belonging to our Lord Jesus Christ, through Mary, and in Mary.

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O sweetest heart of Jesus! I implore that I may ever love thee more and more!

His Holiness, Pope Pius IX., by a rescript of the Sacred Congregation of Indulgences, Nov. 26, 1876, granted to all the faithful, every time that, with at least contrite heart and devotion, they shall say this ejaculation: AN INDULGENCE OF THREE HUNDRED DAYS.

Sweet heart of Mary, be my salvation!

His Holiness, Pope Pius IX., by a decree of the Sacred Congregation of Indulgences, Sept. 10, 1852, granted to all the faithful, every time that, with at least contrite heart and devotion, they shall say this ejaculation: AN INDULGENCE OF THREE HUNDRED DAYS.

AMPLE INDULGENCES HEREIN

The greater part, though not all, of the prayers selected for this book have been so, according to the “Manual of Indulgences”, published 1878 by order of Pope Pius IX, on account of indulgences of either 100 or 300 days granted to their devout recital by the faithful, once per day, having at least a contrite heart (perfect contrition and the intention to confess if possible, being the only means of salvation available without actual confession - Council of Trent, Session 14, Chapter 4).

This is so that those true Catholics having no access to lawful sacraments may continue, by the daily practice of piety, and without need for many or long prayers, to obtain those indulgences, which are not dependent upon hearing mass, confessing, or communicating, for the remittance of their own temporal debt of punishment and the shortening of the sufferings of the souls in Purgatory, who have no other source of relief but the charitable piety of the Church Militant.

Ten Meditations
Of
St. Francis de Sales
From “Introduction to the Devout Life”

MEDITATIONS
Proper to be made every morning

Psalm 62:7
"I will meditate on Thee in the morning."

Ecclesiasticus 39:6
***"He will give his heart to resort early to the Lord that made him,
and he will pray in the sight of the Most High."***

MEDITATION, consisting of considerations on the great truths of Christianity, pious affections, and manifold elevations of the soul to God, and serious resolutions of devoting one's self to Him, is allowed to be one of the most important exercises of a Christian life, and such as ought to be performed daily, by as many as would serve God in good earnest. The time most proper for it is the morning. The most proper place one's closet, or any other, where one can be most recollected. The chief subjects to be meditated on, especially for beginners, are, the end for which we came into this world: the benefits of God, and the many motives we have to love and serve Him: the vanity of the honors, riches, and pleasures of this life; and how very suddenly all these things vanish away; the enormity of sin, and the multitude of our sins in particular; the certainty and uncertainty of death; and the necessity of preparing for it: the account we must one day give to an all-seeing Judge: the eternal joys of heaven, and the eternal torments of hell: the presence and majesty of God: the life and death of Jesus Christ: the examples of His saints: the state of our own interior, in order to gain knowledge of ourselves, our passions and vices, etc.

The method of meditation prescribed by that great master in spirituality, St. Francis de Sales, in his Introduction, part the 2nd, is as follows:

First, place yourself in the presence of God, by a lively faith that He sees and beholds you, and is most intimately present in the center of your soul: prostrate yourself in spirit before Him, to adore this sovereign Lord, whose majesty fills heaven and earth: make an offering of your whole being to Him; and humbly beg His pardon for all your past treasons and sins.

Secondly, Implore with fervor and humility His light and grace, that you may perform this important exercise as you ought.

Thirdly, Consider attentively upon the subject you have chosen for your meditation, (which you ought to have prepared over night,) and let the truths of heaven sink deep into your soul. Dwell most upon such points as you find yourself most affected with.

Fourthly, From these considerations draw pious affections of the love of God, of gratitude for His benefits, repentance for your sins, and the like, which are the principal part of mental prayer, and what you ought most to insist upon.

Fifthly, From these affections pass on to good resolutions of a serious amendment of your life, particularly with regard to such failings as you are most subject to: and determine with yourself to begin that very day to put these good purposes in execution on such occasions as shall offer.

Sixthly, Conclude by thanksgiving to God for the affections and resolutions He has given you; offer them to Him, and beg His blessing on them.

Seventhly, Lay up in your minds such points of your meditation as have touched you most, and oftentimes in the day reflect upon them.

Eighthly, Such as find difficulty in meditation may help themselves by using some good book, reading leisurely and pausing upon what they read, and drawing proper affections and resolutions from it.

In the next pages are the ten meditations out of the first Part of St. Francis de Sales' Introduction: which may serve as Examples of this exercise; and are very proper to bring a soul to a resolution of serving God.

“With desolation is all the land made desolate; because there is none that considereth in the heart.” - Jeremias 12:11

THE FIRST MEDITATION

On our Creation

Preparations

PLACE yourself in the presence of God.
Beseech Him to inspire you.

Considerations

Consider that so many years ago you were not yet in the world, and that your being was a mere nothing. Where were we, O my soul, at that time? the world had lasted so many ages, and yet there was no news of us.

God has framed you out of this nothing, to make you what you are, merely of His own goodness; having no need at all of you.



Consider the being that God has given you; for it is the highest in this visible world, capable of eternal life, and of being perfectly united with His Divine Majesty.

Affections and Resolutions

Humble yourself exceedingly in the presence of God, saying in your heart with the Psalmist, O Lord, I am in Thy sight a mere nothing, and how hadst Thou remembrance of me to create me! alas, my soul, thou wast engulfed in that ancient nothing, and hadst yet been there had not God drawn thee thence. And what couldst thou have done remaining there.

Give thanks to God. My great and good Creator, how am I obliged to Thee, since Thou hast vouchsafed to take me out of this nothing, and by Thy mercy to make me what I am! What can I do to bless Thy holy name as I ought, and to render due thanks to Thy inestimable goodness.

Confound yourself. But alas, my Creator, instead of uniting myself to Thee by love and service, I have been a rebel to Thee by my inordinate affections, wandering and straying away from Thee, to unite myself to sin; valuing Thy goodness no more than if Thou hadst not been my Creator.

Prostrate yourself before God. O my soul, know that the Lord is Thy God: it is He that has made thee and not thou thyself. O God, I am the work of Thy hands.

I will then no more henceforth take pleasure in myself, I am nothing. Why dost thou magnify thyself O dust and ashes? yea, rather, O mere nothing, why dost thou exalt thyself? To humble therefore myself, I resolve to do such and such things; to suffer such and such disgraces; I will change my life and henceforth follow my Creator, and esteem myself honored with that condition and being which He has given me, employing it entirely in obedience to His will, by such means as shall be taught me, and as I shall learn from my Heavenly Father.

Conclusion

Bless thy God, my soul, and let all that is within me praise His holy name; for His goodness has drawn me, and His mercy has created me, out of nothing.

O my God, I offer to Thee the being which Thou hast given me: from my heart I dedicate and consecrate it to Thee. Lord, strengthen me in these affections and resolutions. O blessed Virgin, recommend them to the mercy of thy Son, with all for whom I ought to pray.

“In such a multitude I shall not be known: for what is my soul in such an immense creation?” – Ecclesiasticus 16:17

THE SECOND MEDITATION

On the End for which we were created

Preparation

PLACE yourself in the presence of God.
Beseech Him to inspire you.

Considerations

God has not placed you in this world for any need He has of you, who are altogether unprofitable to Him, but only to exercise His goodness in you by giving you His grace and glory. And to this end He hath enriched you with an understanding to know Him, with a memory to be mindful of Him, with a will to love Him, an imagination to represent to yourself His benefits, eyes to behold His wondrous works, a tongue to praise Him, and so of the other faculties.



Being created and put into the world for this intent, all actions contrary to it are to be avoided and rejected and whatever conduceth not to this end ought to be contemned as vain and superfluous.

Consider the wretchedness of worldlings, who never think of this, but live as though they believed themselves created for no other end, than to build houses, plant trees, heap up riches, and such like fooleries.

Affections and Resolutions

Confound yourself, reproaching your soul with her misery, which has hitherto been so great, as that she hath seldom or never considered this. Alas! shall you say, how did I employ my thoughts, O God, when I placed them not upon Thee? What did I remember when I forgot Thee? What did I love when I loved not Thee? Alas! I ought to have fed upon Truth, and I have glutted myself with vanity; I have served the world, which was created but to serve me.

Detest your past Life. I renounce you, O vain thoughts and unprofitable fancies; I abjure you, O frivolous and hateful remembrances; O unfaithful and disloyal friendships, lewd and wretched slaveries, ungrateful contentments, and irksome pleasures, I abhor you.

Return to God. And Thou, O my God, my Saviour, Thou shalt be from henceforth the sole object of my thoughts; I will no more apply my mind to objects that may be displeasing to Thee. My memory shall entertain itself all the days of my life with the greatness of Thy clemency, so mercifully exercised on me: Thou shalt be the delight of my heart, and the sweetness of my affections.

Ah! such and such trash and trifles to which I applied myself; such and such unprofitable employments, in which I have foolishly squandered away my days such and such affections which have captivated my head shall henceforth be a horror to my thoughts, and to this end I will use such and such good remedies.

Conclusion

I thank Thee merciful God who made me for so excellent an end. Thou hast created me, O Lord, for Thyself, and for the everlasting enjoyment of Thy incomprehensible glory: O when shall I be worthy of it? When shall I praise Thee and bless Thee as I ought? I offer to Thee, O my dear Creator, all these affections and resolutions, with all my heart and soul. I beseech Thee, O God, to accept my desires and purposes, and give Thy holy benediction to my soul, to the end that it may accomplish them, through the merits of Thy blessed Son's blood, shed for me upon the cross.

“Thou hast hated them that regard vanities, to no purpose. But I have hoped in the Lord” – Psalm 30:7

THE THIRD MEDITATION

On the benefits of God

Preparations

PLACE yourself in the presence of God.
Beseech Him to inspire you.

Considerations

Consider the corporeal gifts, which God has bestowed upon you: what a body; what conveniences to maintain it; what health, and lawful recreations to entertain it; what friends and assistances! But consider all this with respect to many other persons much more worthy than yourself, who are destitute of all those blessings: some spoiled in their bodies, health, and limbs; others abandoned to the mercy of reproaches, contempts, and dishonors; others oppressed with poverty; and God has not suffered you to become so miserable.



Consider the gifts of mind. How many are in the world stupid, frantic, or mad; and why are you not of this number? God has favored you.

How many are there who have been brought up rudely and in gross ignorance; and by God's providence you have been educated liberally and honorably.

Consider the spiritual graces. You are a child of the Catholic Church; God has taught you to know Him even from your most tender age. How often has He given you many inspirations, internal illuminations, and reprehensions for your amendment? How frequently has He pardoned you your faults; how often has He delivered you from the occasions of casting yourself away to which you were exposed? And were not all these years past given you as a time and opportunity to advance the good of your soul? Consider in particular how good and gracious God has always been to you.

Affections and Resolutions

Admire the goodness of God. O how good is God towards me! O how gracious is He! How rich is Thy heart, O Lord, in mercy and liberal in clemency! O my soul, let us recount for ever how many favors He has done us.

Be astonished at your ingratitude. But what am I, O Lord, that Thou art so mindful of me? Ah! How great is my unworthiness! Alas! I have even trodden Thy blessings under foot. I have dishonored Thy graces, perverting them into abuse and contempt of Thy sovereign goodness. I have opposed the depth of my ingratitude to the height of Thy grace and favor.

Stir yourself up to acknowledgment. Well then, my heart, be now no more unfaithful, ungrateful, and disloyal to this great Benefactor. And now, shall not my soul henceforth be wholly subject to God, who has done so many wonders and favors to me and for me?

Ah! withdraw then your body, from such and such sensualities; and consecrate it to the service of God, who has done so much for it. Apply your soul to know and acknowledge Him by such exercises as shall be requisite for that purpose. Employ diligently the means which you have in the church to save your soul, and love Almighty God. Yes, O my God, I will be diligent in prayer; I will hear Thy holy word, and put in practice Thy inspirations and counsels.

Conclusion

I thank Thee my God for the knowledge Thou hast now given me of my duty, and for the benefits I have hitherto received. I offer Thee my heart with all my resolutions. Do Thou purify and perfect them. I pray Thee, strengthen me to practice them faithfully through the merits of Thy Son's death. Blessed Virgin Mary, and all the Saints, pray for me.

“And now O Lord, thou art God: and thou hast promised to thy servant such great benefits.” – 1 Paralipomenon 17:26

THE FOURTH MEDITATION

On Sin

Preparations

PLACE yourself in the presence of God.

Beseech Him to inspire you.

Considerations

Call to mind how long it is since you began to sin, and examine how much, since that beginning sins have been multiplied in your heart. How every day you have increased them against God, against yourself, and against your neighbor, by work, by word, or by desire.

Consider your evil inclinations, and how far you have followed them; and by these two points you shall find that your sins are greater in number than the hairs of your head, yea, than the sands of the sea.



Consider in particular the sin of ingratitude against God, which is a general sin, and extends itself over all the rest, making them infinitely more enormous. Consider then how many benefits God has bestowed upon you, and how you have abused them all in prejudice of the giver: and in particular

how many inspirations have you despised? How many good motions have you made unprofitable? But, above all, how many times have you communed with God in prayer? And where are the fruits of it? What is become of all those precious jewels with which your dear spouse adorned you? Have all these been buried under your iniquities? With what preparations have you received them? Think on this ingratitude, that God, having run so far after you, you have run from Him to lose yourself.

Affections and Resolutions

Be confounded at your misery. O my God! How dare I appear before Thy eyes? Alas! I am but the corruption of the world, and a very sink of sin and ingratitude. Is it possible that I have been so disloyal, as not to have left any one of my senses, nor any one of the powers, of my soul but which I have corrupted, violated, or defiled? And that not so much as one day of my life has passed, in which I have not brought forth such wicked effects? Is it thus that I have recompensed the benefits of my Creator, and the precious blood of my Redeemer?

Crave pardon, and cast yourself at the feet of your Lord, like the prodigal child, like a penitent Magdalene, or like a woman that has defiled her marriage-bed with all kind of adultery. Have mercy, O Lord, upon this poor sinner! Alas! O living fountain of compassion, have pity on this wretch.

Resolve to live better. No, O Lord, never more with the help of Thy grace, never more will I abandon myself to sin. Alas, I have loved it too much; now I detest it, and embrace Thee. O Father of mercy, I will live and die in Thee.

To expiate my sins past, I will accuse myself of them courageously; and will not leave one unbanished from my heart.

I will use all possible endeavors to extirpate all the roots of sin out of my heart, and in particular such and such vices, to which I am most inclined.

To accomplish this, I will constantly embrace the means which I shall be advised to; and think I have never done enough to repair such grievous offences.

Conclusion

I give Thee thanks O God for expecting my amendment till this hour; and bless Thee that Thou hast given me these affections. I offer up to Thee my heart, that Thou mayest strengthen me in these affections and that I may put them into execution.

“For the wages of sin is death. But the grace of God, life everlasting, in Christ Jesus our Lord.” – Romans 6:23

THE FIFTH MEDITATION

On Death

Preparations

PLACE yourself in the presence of God.

Beseech Him to inspire you with His grace.

Imagine yourself to be extremely sick, lying on your death-bed, without any hope of recovery.

Considerations

Consider the uncertainty of the day of your death. O my soul, thou must one day go out of this body; but when shall that day be? Shall it be in winter or in summer? In city or in country? By day or by night? Shall it be suddenly, or on notice given thee? By sickness or by accident? Shalt thou have leisure to make thy confession? Shalt thou have the assistance of thy ghostly father? Alas! of all this we know nothing at all; only certain it is, that we shall die, and that perhaps sooner than we imagine.



Consider that then the world shall end in regard to you: for it will last no longer to you; it will turn upside down before your eyes; for then the pleasures and vanities, the worldly joys and fond affections of our life will seem to us shadows and airy clouds. Ah wretch! for what toys and trifles have I offended God! You shall then see that for a mere nothing you have forsaken Him. On the contrary, devotion and good works will then seem to you sweet and delightful. O why did I not follow this lovely and pleasant path? The sins, which before seemed very little, will appear as big as mountains and your devotion very small.

Consider the long and languishing farewells your soul will then give this world; she will then take her leave of riches, vanities, and all idle company; of pleasures, pastimes, friends, and neighbors; of kindred, children, husband and wife; in short, of every creature; and finally of her own body, which she will leave pale, hideous, and loathsome.

Consider with what hurrying they will carry away this body, to cover it under the earth, which done, the world will think no more of you, than you

have thought on others; God's peace be with him, they will say, and that's all. O death, how void art thou of regard or pity!

Consider how the soul, being departed from the body, takes her way to the right hand, or to the left. Alas! whither shall yours go? What way shall it take? No other than that which it began here in this world.

Affections and Resolutions

Pray to God, and cast yourself into His arms. Alas, O my Lord, receive me into Thy protection at that dreadful day: make that hour happy and favorable to me; and rather let all the other days of my life be sad and sorrowful.

Despise the world. Since then I know not the hour in which I must leave thee, O wretched world, I will no more set my heart upon thee. O my dear friends and relations, pardon me if I love you no more but with a holy friendship, which may last eternally; for why should I unite myself to you, so as to be forced to break and dissolve that knot?

I will then prepare myself against that hour, and take all possible care to end this journey happily. I will secure the state of my conscience to the utmost of my ability, and take present order for the amendment of such and such defects.

Conclusion

I give thanks to Thee my God for these resolutions which Thou hast given me. I offer them to Thy Divine Majesty. O God, in Thy mercy and for the sake of Jesus Christ Thy Son, give me a happy death, by the merits of the same Christ our Lord. Blessed Virgin, and all the glorified Saints pray for me.

“It is appointed unto men once to die, and after this the judgment”

– Hebrews 9:27

THE SIXTH MEDITATION

On Judgment

Preparations

PLACE yourself in the presence of God.
Beseech Him to inspire you with His grace.

Consideration.

After the time that God hath prescribed for the continuance of the world; after many signs and dreadful presages, which will cause men to pine away through fear and anguish; a fire, raging like a torrent, shall burn and reduce to ashes every thing that is upon the face of the earth; nothing which we see upon it shall be spared.

After these flames and thunder bolts, all men shall arise from their graves (excepting such as are already risen) and at the voice of the Angel they shall appear in the valley of Josophat. But alas! with what difference! for the one sort shall arise in glorified and resplendent bodies; the other in bodies most hideous and horrid.

Consider the majesty with which the Sovereign Judge will appear, environed with all His angels and saints; before Him shall be borne His cross, shining much brighter than the sun; an ensign of mercy to the good, and of justice to the wicked.



This sovereign Judge, by His dreadful command, which shall be suddenly obeyed, will separate the good from the bad, placing the one at His right hand, and the other at His left. O everlasting separation! after which these two companies shall never meet.

The separation being made and the books of conscience opened, all men shall see clearly the malice of the wicked, and their contempt against God; and on the other side the penance of the good, and the effects of God's

grace which they have received, and nothing shall lie hid. O God, what a confusion will this be to the one, and what a consolation to the other!

Consider the last sentence pronounced against the wicked: Depart from me ye cursed into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels. Ponder well those weighty words. Depart, saith He, a world of eternal banishment against those miserable wretches, excluding them eternally from His glorious presence. He calls them cursed. O, my soul, how dreadful a curse! a general curse, including all manner of woes! an irrevocable curse, comprehending all time and eternity. He adds: into everlasting fire. Behold, O my heart, this vast eternity! O eternal eternity of pains, how dreadful art thou!

Consider the contrary sentence of the good: Come, saith the judge; O sweet word of salvation, by which God draws us to Himself, and receives us into the bosom of His goodness! Blessed of my Father, O dear blessing, which comprehends all happiness! Possess the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, O good God, what excess of bounty! for this kingdom shall never have an end.

Affections and Resolutions

Tremble, O my soul at the remembrance of those things. O my God, who shall secure me in that day, when the pillars of heaven shall tremble for fear!

Detest your sins, which only can condemn you on that dreadful day.

Ah! wretched heart of mine, resolve to amend, O Lord, I will judge myself now, that I may not be judged then. I will examine my conscience, and condemn myself. I will accuse and chastise myself, that the eternal Judge may not condemn me in that dreadful day, I will therefore confess my sins and accept all necessary advice.

Conclusion

I thank Thee O my God, who hast given me means to provide for that day, and time to do penance. I offer Thee my heart to perform it well and profitably for myself and for others. I pray Thee to give me grace duly to accomplish it.

“Then shall the king say to them that shall be on his right hand: Come, ye blessed of my Father, possess you the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.” – Matthew 25:34

“Then he shall say to them also that shall be on his left hand: Depart from me, you cursed, into everlasting fire which was prepared for the devil and his angels.” – St. Matthew 25:41

THE SEVENTH MEDITATION

On Hell

Preparations

PLACE yourself in the presence of God.

Humble yourself, and implore His assistance.

Represent to yourself a dark city, all burning, all stinking with pitch and brimstone, and full of inhabitants, who cannot get out.

Considerations

The damned are in the depth of hell, as within this woeful city, where they suffer unspeakable torments, in all their senses and members; because, as they have employed all their senses and members in sinning, so shall they suffer in them all the punishments due to sin. The eyes, for lascivious looks shall be afflicted with the horrid vision of hell and devils. The ears, for delighting in vicious discourses, shall hear nothing but wailings, lamentations, desperate howlings; and so of the rest.



Besides all these torments, there is another greater, which is the loss and privation of God's glory, from the sight of which they are excluded forever. Now, if Absalom found it more grievous to him to be denied the seeing the face of his father David, than to be banished, O God, what a grief it will be, to be forever excluded from beholding Thy most sweet and gracious countenance!

Consider, above all, the eternity of these pains, which above all things makes hell intolerable. Alas! if a flea in your ear, or if the heat of a little fever, make one short night so long and tedious, how terrible will the night of eternity be, accompanied with so many torments! From this eternity proceed eternal despair, infinite rage and blasphemy.

Affections and Resolutions

Terrify yourself with the words of the prophet Isaias; O, my soul, art thou able to live forever in everlasting flames, and amidst this devouring fire? Wilt thou forfeit the sight of Thy God forever?

O Lord I have deserved hell, yea, oftentimes. From henceforth will I take a new course; for why should I go down into this bottomless pit? I will therefore use the means Thou shalt teach me to avoid sin, which only can bring me to this eternal death.

“And as they liked not to have God in their knowledge, God delivered them up to a reprobate sense, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all iniquity, malice, fornication, avarice, wickedness, full of envy, murder, contention, deceit, malignity, whisperers, detractors, hateful to God, contumelious, proud, haughty, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, foolish, dissolute, without affection, without fidelity, without mercy. Who, having known the justice of God, did not understand that they who do such things, are worthy of death; and not only they that do them, but they also that consent to them that do them.” – Romans 1:28-31

“But as for those my enemies, who would not have me reign over them, bring them hither, and kill them before me.” – St. Luke 19:27

“And the smoke of their torments shall ascend up for ever and ever: neither have they rest day nor night” – Apocalypse 14:11

THE EIGHTH MEDITATION

On Heaven

Preparations

PLACE yourself in the presence of God.
Beseech Him to inspire you with His grace.

Considerations

Consider a fair and clear night, and think how pleasant it is to behold the sky all spangled with a multitude and variety of stars; join this now with the beauty of as clear a day, so as the brightness of the sun may no way hinder the luster of the stars or moon; and then say boldly, that all this put together is nothing in comparison with the excellent beauty of the heavenly paradise. Oh! how this lovely place is to be desired! Oh! how precious is this city.



Consider the glory, beauty, and multitude of the inhabitants in this blessed country: those million of millions of angels, cherubim and seraphim: those troops of apostles, prophets, martyrs, confessors, virgins, and holy matrons. The number is innumerable. Oh how blessed is this company! the meanest of them is more beautiful to behold than all this world; what a sight then will it be to see them all? But, O my God, how happy are they! they sing continually harmonious songs of eternal love; they enjoy a constant mirth; they interchange one with another unspeakable contentments, and live in the comfort of a happy and indissoluble society.

In fine, consider how blessed they are to enjoy God, who rewards them for ever with His lovely aspect, and by the same infuses into their hearts a treasure of delights: how great a happiness it is to be united everlastingly to this Sovereign Good! They are there like happy birds flying and singing perpetually in the air of His Divinity, which encompasses them on all sides with incredible pleasure. There every one does his best, and without envy, sings the Creator's praise. Blessed be Thou for ever, O sweet and sovereign Creator and Redeemer, Who art so bountiful to us, and dost communicate to us so liberally the everlasting treasures of Thy glory: Blessed be you for ever, says He, My beloved creatures, who have so faithfully served Me, and who now shall praise Me everlastingly, with so great love and courage.

Affections and Resolutions

I admire and praise this heavenly country. Oh how beautiful art thou, my dear Jerusalem! and how happy are thy inhabitants! O my heart, what little courage hast thou had hitherto, in wandering so far from the way of this glorious habitation. Oh, why have I strayed so far from my Sovereign Good? Ah! wretch that I am, for these foolish and trivial pleasures have I a thousand and a thousand times forsaken eternal and infinite delights? Was I not mad, to despise such precious blessings for so vain and contemptible affections.

I aspire now with renewed fervor to this delightful habitation. O my gracious God, since it has pleased Thee at length to direct my wandering steps in the right way, never hereafter will I turn back. Let us go, my dear soul, let us go to this eternal repose: let us walk towards this blessed land that is promised us. What have we to do in this Egypt? I will therefore unburden myself of all such things as may divert or retard me in so happy journey; I will perform such things as may conduct me to it.

“Again the kingdom of heaven is like to a merchant seeking good pearls. Who when he had found one pearl of great price, went his way, and sold all that he had, and bought it.” – St. Matthew 13:45-46

“But, as it is written: That eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither hath it entered into the heart of man, what things God hath prepared for them that love him.” – 1 Corinthians 2:9

“For I reckon that the sufferings of this time are not worthy to be compared with the glory to come that shall be revealed in us.” – Romans 8:18

THE NINTH MEDITATION

By way of election and choice of Heaven

Preparations

PLACE yourself in the presence of God.

Humble yourself before His Majesty, and beseech Him to inspire you with His grace.

Imagine yourself to be in a plain field, all alone with your good angel, as young Tobias going to Rages, and that he shows you heaven open, with all the pleasures represented in the former meditation; then beneath that he shows you hell wide open, with all the torments described in the meditation of hell; you being thus placed in your imagination, and kneeling by your good angel.

Considerations

Consider that it is most true, you are between heaven and hell; and that the one and the other is open to receive you, according to the choice you shall make.

Consider that the choice you shall make in this world shall last for eternity in the other.

And though both the one and the other be open to receive you, according to your choice; yet God, who is ready to give you either the one, by His justice, or the other by His mercy, desires, notwithstanding, with an incomparable desire, that you would make choice of heaven; and your good angel also importunes you with all his power, offering you on God's behalf a thousand assistances, and a thousand graces, to help you thither.



Consider, that Jesus Christ beholds you from above in His clemency, and graciously invites you, saying, "Come, My dear soul, to everlasting rest, within the arms of My goodness, where I have prepared immortal delights for thee in the abundance of My Love." Behold likewise, with your inward eyes, the blessed Virgin, who with a motherly love exhorts you, saying, "Take courage my child, despise not the desire of my Son, nor so many sighs which I have given for thee, thirsting with Him after Thy eternal salvation." Behold the saints also exhorting you, and millions of blessed souls sweetly inviting you, and wishing nothing more than to see your heart united with theirs in praising and loving God for ever; assuring you, that the way to heaven is not so hard as the world makes it. "Be of good courage, dear brother," say they, "he that shall diligently consider the way of devotion, by which we ascended hither, shall see that we came to these immortal delights by pleasures incomparably sweeter than those of the world."

Election

O hell, I detest thee now and for evermore; I detest thy torments and pains; I detest thy miserable and accursed eternity: and above all, I detest those eternal blasphemies and maledictions, which thou vomitest out eternally against my God. -- And, turning my heart and soul to thee, O beautiful paradise, everlasting glory and endless felicity. I choose my habitation forever, and irrevocably, within thy fair and blessed mansions, within thy holy and most lovely tabernacles. I bless Thy mercy, O my God, and accept the offer, which it pleaseth Thee to make me of it. O my sweet Saviour Jesus, I accept Thy everlasting love; and the purchase which Thou hast made for me of a place in this heavenly Jerusalem, not so much for any other thing, as to love and bless Thee for ever and ever.

I accept the favors which thou blessed Virgin and saints offer me; I promise to advance towards you; and give my hand to my good angel, that he may guide me thither. O my soul let us obey our good angel and irrevocably choose this heavenly dwelling.

"I desire therefore, first of all, that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all men:" – 1 Timothy 2:1

"And I fell down before the Lord as before, forty days and nights neither eating bread, nor drinking water, for all your sins, which you had committed against the Lord, and had provoked Him to wrath: For I feared His indignation and anger, wherewith being moved against you, He would have destroyed you. And the Lord heard me this time also."

– Deuteronomy 9:18-19

THE TENTH MEDITATION

By way of election and choice, which the soul makes of a devout life

Preparations

PLACE yourself in the presence of God.

Prostrate yourself before Him, and implore the assistance of His grace.

Considerations

Imagine yourself again to be in a plain field, all alone with your good angel; and that you see on your left hand the devil, seated on a great high throne, with many infernal spirits about him, environed with a great troop of worldlings, who, all bare headed, acknowledge him for their lord, and do him homage, some by one sin and some by another. Observe the countenances of all the wretched courtiers of this abominable king. Behold some of them transported with hatred, envy, and passion; others killing one another; others consumed with cares, pensive and anxious to heap up riches; others bent upon vanity, without any manner of pleasure, but which is empty and unprofitable; others wallowing in the mire, buried and putrefied in their brutish affections. Behold how they are without rest, order and decency: behold how they despise one another, and love but in show. In a word, you shall see a lamentable commonwealth miserably tyrannized over by this cursed king, which will move you to compassion.

On the right side, behold Jesus Christ crucified, who with a cordial love prays for these poor enthralled people, that they may be freed from this tyranny, and calls them to Himself; behold round Him a troop of devout persons with their angels. Contemplate the beauty of this kingdom of devotion. O, what a sight is it to see this troop of virgins, men and women, whiter than the lilies: that assembly of widows full of holy mortification and humility! See the rank of divers married people living peaceably together with mutual respect which cannot be without great charity. Consider how these devout souls join the exterior care of the house with the care of the interior, the love of the husband with that of the celestial bridegroom. Consider them all universally, and you shall see in them a sweet, holy, and lovely order, observing our Saviour, whom every one would willingly plant in the midst of his heart. They are full of joy, but that joy is comely, charitable, and well ordered; they love one another, but their love is most pure and holy: such as suffer afflictions amongst this devout company, torment not themselves much, nor lose courage. Lastly, behold those eyes of our Saviour, who comforts them and how they altogether aspire to Him.

You have already shaken off Satan, with all his cursed execrable troop, by the good affections and resolutions you have conceived, but you are not yet arrived at Jesus, nor united with this blessed and holy company of devout people, but have hitherto kept yourself between the one and the other.

The blessed Virgin, with St. Joseph, and a hundred thousand others, who are of the squadron of those who have lived in the world, invite and

encourage you. And the crucified King Himself calls you by your name, “Come, my well beloved, come, that I may crown thee.”



Election

O world! O abominable troop! never more shall you see me under your banner. I have forever left off your fooleries and vanities. O king of pride! O cursed king, infernal spirit, I renounce thee, with all thy vain pomps, I detest thee, with all thy works!

And turning myself to Thee, my dear Jesus, king of felicity and immortal glory, I embrace Thee with all the powers of my soul; I adore Thee with all my heart, I choose Thee now and for ever for my King, and with inviolable fidelity, I pay Thee irrevocable homage; and submit myself to the obedience of Thy holy laws and ordinances.

O sacred Virgin, my dear mother: I choose thee for my guide; I put myself under thy colors; I offer thee a particular respect and special reverence.

O my good angel, present me to this sacred assembly, and forsake me not till I arrive at this blessed company, with whom I say, and will say for ever, in testimony of my choice, Live Jesus, live Mary, live Jesus, live Mary.

“When Jesus therefore had seen his mother and the disciple standing whom he loved, he saith to his mother: Woman, behold thy son. After that, he saith to the disciple: Behold thy mother.” – St. John 19:26-27

Morning Prayers

PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE

God of all goodness, almighty and eternal Father of mercies, and Savior of mankind; I implore Thee, by Thy sovereign goodness, to enlighten my mind and to touch my heart, that, by means of true faith, hope, and charity, I may live and die in the true religion of Jesus Christ. I confidently believe that, as there is but one God, there can be but one faith, one religion, one only path to salvation, and that every other path opposed thereto can lead but to perdition. This path, O my God, I anxiously seek after, that I may follow it, and be saved. Therefore I will follow the religion which Thou shalt reveal to me as the true one, and will abandon, at whatever cost, that wherein I shall have discovered errors and falsehood. I confess that I do not deserve this favor for the greatness of my sins, for which I am truly penitent, seeing they offend a God Who is so good, so holy, and so worthy of love; but what I deserve not I hope to obtain from Thine infinite mercy; and I beseech Thee to grant it unto me through the merits of that precious Blood, which was shed for us sinners by Thine only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

ACT OF FAITH

O my God! I firmly believe that Thou art one God in three Divine Persons, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; I believe that Thy Divine Son became man, and died for our sins, and that He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe these and all the truths, which the Holy Catholic Church teaches, because Thou hast revealed them, who canst neither deceive nor be deceived.

ACT OF HOPE

O my God! Relying on Thy infinite goodness and promises, I hope to obtain pardon of my sins, the help of Thy grace, and life everlasting, through the merits of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Redeemer.

ACT OF CONTRITION

O my God! I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins, because I dread the loss of heaven and the pains of hell, but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, who art all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace, to confess my sins, to do penance, and to amend my life.

ACT OF LOVE

O my God! I love Thee above all things, with my whole heart and soul, because Thou art all good and worthy of all love. I love my neighbor as myself for the love of Thee. I forgive all who have injured me, and ask pardon of all whom I have injured.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

O Jesus I turn toward the holy tabernacle where Thou livest hidden for love of me. I love Thee, O my God. I cannot receive Thee in Holy Communion. Come nevertheless and visit me with Thy grace. Come spiritually into my heart. Purify it. Sanctify it. Render it like unto Thine own. Amen.

Lord, I am not worthy that Thou shouldst enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

PRAYER FOR PERSEVERANCE

Lord God Almighty, Thou who guidest all souls toward the good, I am a sinner who has strayed far away from Thee through my own wrongdoing. I thank Thee for leading me back to the right path, and I ask Thee, gracious Jesus, who hung on the cross in blood and sorrow, to have mercy on me. I entreat Thee by Thy five wounds and by the pain that passed from Thy shattered veins to Thy heart. Deign to keep me safe today, lest I fall into sin. Give me the power to withstand the spears of the enemy and to get up again manfully, should I chance to fall into sin.

O, Lord God, for whom nothing is impossible and who can do all things, give me the strength to carry out good works and to be able to persevere in the good.

FOR CONTINUAL RECOURSE TO MARY

O most blessed Virgin Mary, mother of my Lord and redeemer! I entreat thee and beseech thee to effect by thy mercy that, in all the dangers and necessities of my soul, I may flee to thee, may pray to thee, and call upon thee for help.

THE ANGELUS

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

R. And she conceived of the Holy Ghost. *Hail Mary, etc*

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. Be it done unto me according to Thy word. *Hail Mary, etc*

V. And the Word was made Flesh.

R. And dwelt among us. *Hail Mary, etc*

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray.

Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ, Thy Son, was made known by the message of an Angel, may by His passionate cross, be brought to the glory of His resurrection, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

REGINA COELI

(Said during Eastertide, instead of the Angelus)

Queen of heaven, rejoice. Alleluia

For He whom thou didst deserve to bear, Alleluia.
Hath risen as He said, Alleluia.
Pray for us to God, Alleluia.
V. Rejoice and be glad O Virgin Mary! Alleluia.
R. Because our Lord is truly risen. Alleluia.
Let us pray.

O God, who by the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, hast vouchsafed to make glad the whole world, grant, we beseech Thee, that, through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may attain the joys of eternal life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hail Mary, three times.

THE MEMORARE

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary! that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, and sought thy intercession, was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother! To thee I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate! despise not my petitions, but, in thy mercy, hear and answer me. Amen.

PRAYERS TO ST. JOSEPH

Oh, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in you all my interest and desires. Oh, St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your Divine Son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. So that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most Loving of Fathers. Oh, St. Joseph, I never weary contemplating you, and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while He reposes near your heart. Press Him in my name and kiss His fine head for me and ask Him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath. St. Joseph, Patron of departing souls, pray for us. Amen. St. Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church, pray for us. Amen.

Guardian of virgins and father, holy Joseph, to whose faithful care Christ Jesus, very Innocence, and Mary, Virgin of virgins, were committed: I pray and beg of thee, by these dear pledges, Jesus and Mary, free me from all uncleanness, and make me with spotless mind, pure heart and chaste body, ever most chastely to serve Jesus and Mary all the days of my life. Amen.

Remember, O most pure spouse of the blessed Virgin Mary, my sweet protector, Saint Joseph, that no one ever had recourse to thy protection, or implored thy aid without obtaining relief. Confiding, therefore in thy goodness, I come before thee, and humbly supplicate thee. Oh, despise not my petitions, foster-father of the Redeemer, but graciously receive them. Amen.

Saint Joseph, friend of the Sacred Heart, pray for us!

TO MY GUARDIAN ANGEL

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love entrusts me here, ever this day be at my side to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen.

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED APOSTLES PETER AND PAUL

O blessed apostles Peter and Paul! I take you this day for my special protectors and advocates with God. In all humility I rejoice with thee, blessed Peter, prince of the apostles, because thou art the rock whereon God hath built his Church; and I rejoice with thee, too, blessed Paul, because thou wast chosen of God for a vessel of election, and preacher of the truth throughout the world.

Ask for me, I pray you both, lively faith, firm hope, and perfect charity; entire detachment from myself, contempt of the world, patience in adversity, humility in prosperity, attention in prayer, purity of heart, right intention in my works, diligence in the fulfillment of all the duties of my state of life, constancy in my good resolutions, resignation to the holy will of God, perseverance in his grace even unto death,—that, by your joint intercession and your glorious merits, I may overcome the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil, and be made worthy to stand before the face of the chief and eternal pastor of souls, Jesus Christ, to enjoy him and to love him for all eternity, who, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, liveth and reigneth world without end. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

PRAYERS FOR EVERY DAY IN THE WEEK

PRAYER FOR SUNDAY

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts: the earth is full of thy glory.
Glory be to the Father, glory be to the Son, glory be to the Holy Ghost.

O God, who hast appointed Sunday, that we should serve Thee and participate in Thy grace, grant that always on this day our faith may be renewed, and our hearts incited to the praise and adoration of Thy Majesty; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts: the earth is full of thy glory.
Glory be to the Father, glory be to the Son, glory be to the Holy Ghost.

PRAYER FOR SUNDAY

See, mother of my God! at thy feet a wretched sinner, who has recourse to thee, and puts his trust in thee. I am not worthy that thou shouldst even cast thine eyes upon me; yet well I know that thou, beholding Jesus, thy Son, dying for sinners, dost thyself yearn to save them. O mother of mercy! look on my miseries, and have pity on me.

Men say thou art the refuge of the sinner, the hope of the despairing, the aid of the abandoned: be thou, then, my refuge, my hope, and my aid. It is thy prayers which must save me. For the love of Jesus Christ be thou my help, reach forth thy hand to the poor fallen wretch who cries to thee for succor. I know that thy heart delights to aid the sinner when thou canst: help me, then, now whilst thou canst.

My sins have forfeited the grace of God and my own soul. Behold me in thy hands: O tell me what to do that I may regain my Saviour's grace, and lo! I do it. He bids me go to thee for help; he wills that I should seek thy tender pity's refuge, that so, not thy dear Son's merits only, but thine own prayers too, may help to save me. To thee, then, I have recourse; pray thou to Jesus for me, and make me know and feel what thou canst do for one who trusts in thee. Be it done unto me according to my hope. Amen.

Hail Mary, three times.

PRAYER FOR MONDAY

Most holy Mary, queen of heaven! I who was once the slave of Satan, now dedicate my self to thy service forever. I offer myself to honor and to serve thee while I live. Accept me as thy willing servant, and cast me not from thee as I deserve. Mother, in thee have I placed all my hope.

All blessing and thanks giving be to God, who in his mercy giveth me this trust in thee. True it is that in the past I was miserably fallen in sin. But through the merits of Jesus Christ, and by thy prayers, I hope God has pardoned me my sins. Yet it is not enough, my mother, to be forgiven, whilst the thought appalls me that I may still lose the grace of God. Danger is ever nigh, the devil sleeps not, fresh temptations assail me.

Protect me, then, my sovereign mistress! help me against the assaults of hell. O never, never let me sin again, and offend Jesus, thy Son! No, never, never more suffer me to risk my soul, heaven, and my God, by sin. For this one grace I ask thee, Mary; this I desire; this may thy prayers obtain me. Such is my hope. Amen.

Hail Mary, three times.

PRAYER FOR TUESDAY

Holiest Mary, mother of goodness, mother of mercy! when I reflect on my sins and on the moment of my death, I tremble and am filled with confusion. My sweetest mother, in the Blood of Jesus and in thy intercession are my hopes. Comfort of the afflicted! abandon me not at my death-agony; fail not to console me in that great affliction.

If, even now, I am so tormented by remorse for sin committed, by the uncertainty of forgiveness, by the danger of a relapse, and the rigor of divine justice, how will it be with me then? Mother, before death overtake me, obtain for me a great sorrow for my sins, a true amendment, and a constant fidelity to God, in all that yet remains to me of life.

And when, indeed, my hour is come, then do thou, Mary, be my hope, be thou mine aid in the anguish in which my soul will be overwhelmed; when the enemy sets before my face my sins, oh! comfort me then, that I may not despair. Obtain for me at that moment to invoke thee often, that, with thine own sweet name and that of thy most holy Son upon my lips, I may breathe forth my spirit. This grace thou hast granted to many of thy servants: I, too, desire it, and hope to obtain it. Amen.

Hail Mary, three times.

PRAYER FOR WEDNESDAY

Mother of God, most holy Mary, how often by my sins have I merited hell! Ere now the judgment had gone forth against my first mortal sin, hadst not thou, in thy tender pity, stayed awhile God's justice, and then, softening my hard heart, drawn me on to take confidence in thee. And oh! how often, in dangers which beset my steps, had I fallen, hadst not thou, loving mother that thou art, preserved me by the graces which thou didst obtain for me.

My queen, what will thy pity and thy favor have availed me, if I perish in the flames of hell! If ever I have not loved thee, now, after God, I love thee above all things. Ah! suffer not that I turn away from thee and from God, who through thee hath granted me so many mercies. Lady most worthy of all love, suffer not that I be doomed to hate and curse thee forever in hell. Couldst thou bear to see a servant whom thou lovest lost forever?

O Mary! say not so. Say not that I shall be among the lost! yet lost am I assuredly, if I abandon thee. But who can have the heart to leave thee? How can I ever forget the love which thou hast borne me? No, it is impossible for him to perish who hath recourse to thee, and who, with loyal heart, confides in thee. Leave me not to myself, my mother, or I am lost! Let me ever have recourse to thee! Save me, my hope! save me from hell, and first from sin, which alone can cause my eternal ruin. Amen.

Hail Mary, three times.

PRAYER FOR THURSDAY

Queen of heaven, sitting enthroned above the nine choirs of angels nighest to God, from this vale of tears I, a wretched sinner, hail thee, praying thee in thy love, to turn on me those gracious eyes of thine. See, Mary, see the danger in which I am and ever shall be, whilst I live upon this earth, of losing my soul, paradise, and God. In thee, Lady, is my hope. I love thee; and I sigh after the time when I shall see thee and praise thee in heaven's courts. O Mary! when will that blessed day come that I shall see myself safe at thy feet? When shall I kiss that hand so often outstretched to minister graces to me?

Alas! too true it is, my mother, that in my life I have often been ungrateful; but if I reach heaven, there I will love thee for all eternity, and make reparation for my ingratitude by ever blessing and praising thee. Thanks be to God for having given me such trust in the precious blood of Jesus and in thy powerful intercession. In these, thy true servants have ever hoped, and none of them have been disappointed. No, neither shall I be deceived in mine. O Mary! pray to thy son Jesus, and I will pray him too, by all the merits of his passion, to strengthen and increase this hope.

Hail Mary, three times.

PRAYER FOR FRIDAY

Mary, of all creation the noblest, highest, purest, fairest, holiest work of God! O that all men knew thee and loved thee, my queen, as thou deservest to be loved! Yet great is my consolation, Mary, that so many blessed souls in heaven, and so many just souls still on earth, are filled with love for thy beauty and goodness. But above all I rejoice in this, that God himself loves thee alone more than all men and angels.

I too, loveliest queen, I, a miserable sinner, dare to love thee, mean though my love be. I would I had a greater love, a more tender love: this thou must gain for me, since to love thee is the surest mark of predestination, and a grace which God vouchsafes to the elect. Then, too, my mother, when I reflect upon the debt I owe thy Son, I see that his love for me demands in return an immeasurable love.

Do thou, who desirest nothing else than to see him loved, pray that I may obtain this grace—a great love of Jesus Christ. Obtain it, thou who obtainest from God what thou wilt. Not goods of earth, nor honors, nor riches do I covet, but that which thine own heart desires most—to love my God alone. Oh! can it be that thou wilt not aid me in a desire so acceptable to thee? Impossible! even now I feel thy help, even now thou prayest for me. Pray, Mary, pray; and never cease to pray, till thou dost see me safe in paradise, sure of possessing and of loving my God and thee, my dearest mother, for ever and ever. Amen.

Hail Mary, three times.

PRAYER FOR SATURDAY

O my most holy mother! on the one hand, I see the graces thou hast obtained for me; and on the other, the ingratitude I have shown thee. The ungrateful are unworthy of all favors; yet not for this will I distrust thy mercy Great advocate, have pity on me. Thou, Mary, dost bestow every grace which God vouchsafes to us sinners, and therefore did he make thee mighty, rich, and kind, that so thou mightest succor us.

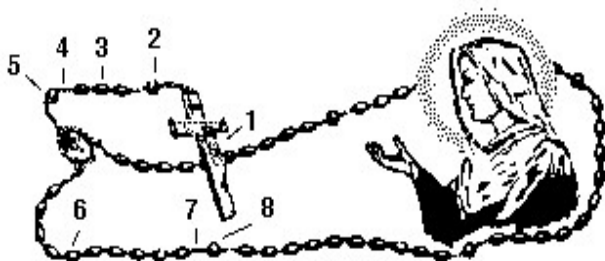
I wish to save my soul. In thy hands I place my eternal welfare; to thee I entrust my soul, I wish to be of those who are thy special servants: cast me not, then, away. Thou art ever seeking the wretched, to console them. Do not abandon a wretched sinner who has recourse to thee. Speak for me, Mary: thy Son grants what thou askest. Take me under thy protection, and it is enough; because, with thee to guard me, I fear no ill. No, not my sins, because thou wilt obtain God's pardon for them: nor the devils, because thou art far mightier than hell: nor my judge, Jesus Christ, for, at thy prayer, he will lay aside his wrath.

Protect me, then, my mother; obtain for me pardon of my sins, love for Jesus, holy perseverance, a good death, and paradise. It is true, I merit not these graces; yet do thou only ask them of our God, and lo! they shall be mine. Pray, then, to Jesus for me. Mary, my queen, in thee I trust; in this trust I rest, I live; in this trust I hope to die. Amen.

Hail Mary, three times, then the Litany (page 104), today being Saturday.

The Holy Rosary

HOW TO PRAY THE FULL ROSARY



1. Make the **Sign of the Cross** and say the **Apostles Creed**.
2. Offer the **Lord's Prayer**.
3. Offer three **Hail Marys** for Faith, Hope and Charity.
4. Offer the **Glory Be**.
5. Announce the First Mystery; then offer the **Lord's Prayer**.
6. Offer ten **Hail Marys** while meditating on the Mystery.
7. Offer the **Glory Be**.
8. Announce the Second Mystery; then offer the **Lord's Prayer**.
9. Repeat 6 and 7 and continue with subsequent Mysteries in like manner.
10. After all Mysteries, offer the **Hail Holy Queen**.
11. End with the **Sign of the Cross**.

Steps 1-4 are optional, and the Rosary may also be divided into three different parts per day, the Joyful, the Sorrowful and the Glorious Mysteries.

Prayers of the Rosary:

THE SIGN OF THE CROSS

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified; died, and was buried. He descended into hell; the third day He arose again; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name: Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us: and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

THE HAIL MARY

Hail Mary, full of grace! the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

THE GLORY BE

Glory be to the Father, and to the son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

HAIL HOLY QUEEN

The Hail Holy Queen is transcribed at the end of the Glorious Mysteries on page 69.

Scriptural Rosary

Excerpts from Scripture and Tradition may be meditated upon silently at each Hail Mary

THE JOYFUL MYSTERIES

1st Joyful Mystery: The Annunciation



Blessed Mother, please obtain for us the virtue of humility like unto thine own

Our Father

The angel Gabriel was sent from God, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary

Hail Mary

And the angel being come in, said unto her: Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women

Hail Mary

Who having heard, was troubled at his saying, and thought with herself what manner of salutation this should be

Hail Mary

And the angel said to her: Fear not, Mary, for thou hast found grace with God.

Hail Mary

Behold thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and shalt bring forth a son; and thou shalt call His name Jesus.

Hail Mary

He shall be called the Son of the most High; and the Lord God shall give unto Him the throne of David His father. And of His kingdom there shall be no end.

Hail Mary

And Mary said to the angel: How shall this be done, because I know not man?

Hail Mary

And the angel answering, said to her: The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the most High shall overshadow thee.

Hail Mary

And therefore also the Holy which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

Hail Mary

And Mary said: Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it done to me according to thy word.

Hail Mary

Glory Be

2nd Joyful Mystery: The Visitation to Elizabeth



Blessed Mother, please obtain for us the virtue of charity like unto thine own

Our Father

And Mary rising up in those days, went into the hill country with haste into a city of Juda. And she entered into the house of Zachary, and saluted Elizabeth.

Hail Mary

And it came to pass, that when Elizabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the infant leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost:

Hail Mary

And she cried out with a loud voice, and said: Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb.

Hail Mary

And blessed art thou that hast believed, because those things shall be accomplished that were spoken to thee by the Lord.

Hail Mary

And Mary said: My soul doth magnify the Lord. And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. Because He hath regarded the humility of His handmaid;

Hail Mary

For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. Because He that is mighty, hath done great things to me;

Hail Mary

Holy is His name. And His mercy is from generation unto generations, to them that fear Him.

Hail Mary

He hath shewed might in His arm: He hath scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart

Hail Mary

He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble

Hail Mary

He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich He hath sent empty away.

Hail Mary

Glory Be

3rd Joyful Mystery: The Nativity of Our Lord



Blessed Mother, please obtain for us the love of God and a spirit of detachment from the world like unto thine own

Our Father

And it came to pass, that when they were there, her days were accomplished, that she should be delivered.

Hail Mary

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped Him up in swaddling clothes

Hail Mary

And she laid Him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Hail Mary

And there were in the same country shepherds watching, and keeping the night watches over their flock. And behold an angel of the Lord stood by them

Hail Mary

And the angel said to them: Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, that shall be to all the people:

Hail Mary

For, this day, is born to you a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord, in the city of David

Hail Mary

Glory to God in the highest; and on earth peace to men of good will.

Hail Mary

Behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem. And entering into the house, they found the Child with Mary His mother,

Hail Mary

And falling down they adored Him; and opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts; gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Hail Mary

But Mary kept all these words, pondering them in her heart.

Hail Mary

Glory Be

4th Joyful Mystery: The Presentation in the Temple



Blessed Mother, please obtain for us a spirit of sacrifice like unto thine own

Our Father

And after the days of her purification were accomplished, they carried Him to Jerusalem, to present Him to the Lord:

Hail Mary

And behold there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon, and this man was just and devout,

Hail Mary

And he had received an answer from the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Christ of the Lord.

Hail Mary

And when His parents brought in the child Jesus, he also took Him into his arms, and blessed God

Hail Mary

And said: Now Thou dost dismiss Thy servant, O Lord, according to Thy word in peace;

Hail Mary

Because my eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all peoples:

Hail Mary

A light to the revelation of the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel

Hail Mary

And Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother: Behold this child is set for the fall, and for the resurrection of many in Israel, and for a sign which shall be contradicted

Hail Mary

And thy own soul a sword shall pierce, that, out of many hearts, thoughts may be revealed.

Hail Mary

And the child grew, and waxed strong, full of wisdom; and the grace of God was in Him.

Hail Mary

Glory Be

5th Joyful Mystery: The finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple



*Blessed Mother, please obtain for us true wisdom and true obedience to the Lord
Jesus Christ our God, like unto thine own*

Our Father

And when Jesus was twelve years old, they went up into Jerusalem, according to the custom of the feast

Hail Mary

And having fulfilled the days, when they returned, the child Jesus remained in Jerusalem; and His parents knew it not

Hail Mary

And not finding Him, they returned into Jerusalem, seeking Him.

Hail Mary

And it came to pass, that, after three days, they found Him in the temple

Hail Mary

Sitting in the midst of the doctors, hearing them, and asking them questions.

Hail Mary

And all that heard Him were astonished at His wisdom and His answers.

Hail Mary

And His mother said to Him: Son, why hast Thou done so to us? Behold Thy father and I have sought Thee sorrowing

Hail Mary

And He said to them: How is it that you sought me? Did you not know, that I must be about My Father's business?

Hail Mary

And He went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them. And His mother kept all these words in her heart

Hail Mary

And Jesus advanced in wisdom, and age, and grace with God and men.

Hail Mary

Glory Be

THE SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

1st Sorrowful Mystery: The Agony in the Garden



Blessed Mother, please obtain for us the grace of perfect contrition for all our sins

Our Father

Then Jesus came with them into a country place which is called Gethsemani; and He began to grow sorrowful and to be sad.

Hail Mary

Then He saith to them: My soul is sorrowful even unto death: stay you here, and watch with Me.

Hail Mary

And He was withdrawn away from them a stone's cast; and kneeling down, He prayed,

Hail Mary

Father, if Thou wilt, remove this chalice from Me: but yet not My will, but Thine be done.

Hail Mary

And there appeared to Him an angel from heaven, strengthening Him

Hail Mary

And being in an agony, He prayed the longer.

Hail Mary

And His sweat became as drops of blood, trickling down upon the ground.

Hail Mary

And He cometh to His disciples, and findeth them asleep, and He saith:
Could you not watch one hour with Me?

Hail Mary

Watch ye, and pray that ye enter not into temptation.

Hail Mary

The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh weak.

Hail Mary

Glory Be

2nd Sorrowful Mystery: The Scourging at the Pillar



Blessed Mother, please obtain for us a spirit of mortification like unto thine own

Our Father

And the scribes and the whole council, binding Jesus, led Him away, and delivered Him to Pilate. And Pilate asked Him: Art Thou the king of the Jews?

Hail Mary

Jesus answered: Thou sayest that I am a king. For this was I born,

Hail Mary

And for this came I into the world; that I should give testimony to the truth. Every one that is of the truth, heareth My voice.

Hail Mary

Pilate saith to Him: What is truth? And when he said this, he went out again to the Jews, and saith to them: I find no cause in Him.

Hail Mary

I will chastise Him therefore, and release Him. Then therefore, Pilate took Jesus, and scourged Him.

Hail Mary

Despised, and the most abject of men, a man of sorrows,

Hail Mary

He was offered because it was His own will, and He opened not His mouth:
He shall be led as a sheep to the slaughter

Hail Mary

But He was wounded for our iniquities, He was bruised for our sins:

Hail Mary

Surely He hath borne our infirmities and carried our sorrows:

Hail Mary

The chastisement of our peace was upon Him, and by His bruises we are
healed.

Hail Mary

Glory Be

3rd Sorrowful Mystery: The Crowning with Thorns



Blessed Mother, please obtain for us the virtue of moral courage like unto thine own

Our Father

And the soldiers led Him away into the court of the palace, and stripping Him, they put a scarlet cloak about Him.

Hail Mary

And plating a crown of thorns, they put it upon His head, and a reed in His right hand.

Hail Mary

And bowing the knee before Him, they mocked Him, saying: Hail, King of the Jews.

Hail Mary

And spitting upon Him, they took the reed, and struck His head.

Hail Mary

Jesus therefore came forth, bearing the crown of thorns and the purple garment. And Pilate saith to them: Behold the Man.

Hail Mary

Behold your King. But they cried out: Away with Him; away with Him; crucify Him

Hail Mary

And Pilate saith to them: Why, what evil hath He done? But they cried out the more: Crucify Him.

Hail Mary

Pilate saith to them: Shall I crucify your King? The chief priests answered: We have no king but Caesar.

Hail Mary

And Pilate; taking water washed his hands before the people, saying: I am innocent of the blood of this just man; look you to it. And the whole people answering, said: His blood be upon us and our children.

Hail Mary

And so Pilate being willing to satisfy the people, delivered up Jesus to be crucified.

Hail Mary

Glory Be

4th Sorrowful Mystery: The Carrying of the Cross



Blessed Mother, please obtain for us the virtue of patience like unto thine own and a fervent love of our own cross, that we may cheerfully endure all things

Our Father

And He said to all: If any man will come after Me, let him deny himself,

Hail Mary

And take up his cross daily, and follow Me.

Hail Mary

And bearing His own cross, they led Him out to crucify Him.

Hail Mary

They laid hold of one Simon of Cyrene, and they laid the cross on him to carry after Jesus.

Hail Mary

Take up My yoke upon you, and learn of Me

Hail Mary

Because I am meek, and humble of heart:

Hail Mary

And you shall find rest to your souls. For My yoke is sweet and My burden light.

Hail Mary

And there followed Him a great multitude of people, and of women, who bewailed and lamented Him.

Hail Mary

But Jesus turning to them, said: Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not over Me; but weep for yourselves, and for your children.

Hail Mary

For if in the green wood they do these things, what shall be done in the dry?

Hail Mary

Glory Be

5th Sorrowful Mystery: The Crucifixion of Our Lord



*Blessed Mother, please obtain for us the grace of final perseverance in the true Faith
and in the state of sanctifying grace*

Our Father

And when they were come to the place which is called Calvary, they crucified Him there

Hail Mary

Jesus said: Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.

Hail Mary

And with Him they crucify two thieves; and one of those said to Jesus: Lord, remember me when Thou shalt come into Thy kingdom

Hail Mary

And Jesus said to him: Amen I say to thee, this day thou shalt be with Me in paradise.

Hail Mary

Now there stood by the cross of Jesus, His mother, and the disciple whom He loved

Hail Mary

Jesus saith to His mother: Woman, behold thy son. After that, He saith to the disciple: Behold thy mother.

Hail Mary

And from that hour, the disciple took her to his own.

Hail Mary

And at the ninth hour, Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying: My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?

Hail Mary

And Jesus crying out with a loud voice, said: Father, into Thy hands I commend My spirit. And saying this, He gave up the ghost.

Hail Mary

And there was darkness over all the earth and behold the veil of the temple was rent in two, and the earth quaked, and the rocks were rent.

Hail Mary

Glory Be

THE GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

1st Glorious Mystery: The Resurrection of Our Lord



*Blessed Mother, please obtain for us the virtue of a strong faith
like unto thine own*

Our Father

Amen, amen I say to you, that you shall lament and weep, but your sorrow shall be turned into joy.

Hail Mary

But I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice; and your joy no man shall take from you.

Hail Mary

Very early in the morning, they came to the sepulcher, bringing the spices which they had prepared.

Hail Mary

An angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and coming, rolled back the stone, and sat upon it.

Hail Mary

Fear not you; for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here,

Hail Mary

For He is risen, as He said. Come, and see the place where the Lord was laid

Hail Mary

Behold He will go before you into Galilee; there you shall see Him.

Hail Mary

And they went out quickly from the sepulcher with fear and great joy, running to tell His disciples

Hail Mary

I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in Me, although he be dead, shall live

Hail Mary

And every one that liveth, and believeth in Me, shall not die for ever.

Hail Mary

Glory Be

2nd Glorious Mystery: The Ascension into Heaven



*Blessed Mother, please obtain for us the virtue of hope
like unto thine own*

Our Father

And He led them out as far as Bethania: and lifting up His hands, He blessed them.

Hail Mary

And Jesus coming, spoke to them, saying: All power is given to Me in heaven and in earth.

Hail Mary

He that believeth and is baptized, shall be saved:

Hail Mary

But he that believeth not shall be condemned.

Hail Mary

Going therefore, teach ye all nations;

Hail Mary

Baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Hail Mary

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you:

Hail Mary

And behold I am with you all days, even to the consummation of the world.

Hail Mary

And when He had said these things, while they looked on, He was raised up: and a cloud received Him out of their sight.

Hail Mary

And the Lord Jesus, was taken up into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God.

Hail Mary

Glory Be

3rd Glorious Mystery: The Descent of the Holy Ghost



Blessed Mother, please obtain for us a zeal for the glory of God like unto thine own

Our Father

And when the days of the Pentecost were accomplished, they were all together in one place:

Hail Mary

And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a mighty wind coming, and it filled the whole house

Hail Mary

And there appeared to them parted tongues as it were of fire, and it sat upon every one of them:

Hail Mary

And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they began to speak the wonderful works of God.

Hail Mary

Now there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.

Hail Mary

Peter standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and spoke to them:

Hail Mary

Do penance, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Hail Mary

They therefore that received his word, were baptized; and there were added in that day about three thousand souls.

Hail Mary

Come Holy Ghost and fill the hearts of Thy faithful, and enkindle in us the fire of Thy love

Hail Mary

Send forth Thy Spirit and we shall be created and Thou shalt renew the face of the earth

Hail Mary

Glory Be

4th Glorious Mystery: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary



Blessed Mother, please obtain for us the grace of a holy death

Our Father

All the glory of the King's daughter is within in golden borders, and the King shall greatly desire thy beauty; for He is the Lord thy God,

Hail Mary

Blessed art thou, O daughter, by the Lord the Most High God, above all women upon the earth.

Hail Mary

Because He hath so magnified thy name this day, that thy praise shall not depart out of the mouth of men who shall be mindful of the power of the Lord for ever

Hail Mary

Thou art the glory of Jerusalem, thou art the joy of Israel, thou art the honour of our people:

Hail Mary

Arise, make haste, my love, my dove, my beautiful one, and come.

Hail Mary

For winter is now past, the rain is over and gone.

Hail Mary

Shew me thy face, let thy voice sound in my ears: for thy voice is sweet, and thy face comely.

Hail Mary

And the temple of God was opened in heaven: and the ark of His Testament was seen in His temple,

Hail Mary

And a great sign appeared in heaven: A woman clothed with the sun,

Hail Mary

And the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars:

Hail Mary

Glory Be

5th Glorious Mystery: The Coronation of the Blessed Virgin Mary as Queen



of Heaven and Earth

Blessed Mother, please obtain for us a greater love for thee, that we may more perfectly love thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ, and please obtain for us the grace of eternal salvation

Our Father

Who is she that cometh forth as the morning rising, fair as the moon, bright as the sun, terrible as an army set in array?

Hail Mary

And as the rainbow giving light in the bright clouds, and as the flower of roses in the days of the spring,

Hail Mary

And in the multitude of the elect she shall have praise, and among the blessed she shall be blessed.

Hail Mary

I am the flower of the field, and the lily of the valleys.

Hail Mary

I am the mother of fair love, and of fear, and of knowledge, and of holy hope.

Hail Mary

In me is all grace of the way and of the truth, in me is all hope of life and of virtue.

Hail Mary

Now therefore, ye children, hear me: Blessed are they that keep my ways.
Hear instruction and be wise, and refuse it not

Hail Mary

Blessed is the man that heareth me, and that watcheth daily at my gates

Hail Mary

He that shall find me, shall find life, and shall have salvation from the Lord:

Hail Mary

Hail Queen of Mercy, protect us from the enemy and receive us at the hour of death.

Hail Mary

Glory Be

HAIL, HOLY QUEEN

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us; and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

V. Pray for us O holy Mother of God,
R. that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray.

O God, whose only begotten Son, by His life, death, and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life, grant, we beseech Thee, that by meditating upon these mysteries of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may both imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

May the divine assistance remain always with us. Amen.

May the souls of the faithful departed, by the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.

Evening Prayers

ACT OF FAITH

O my God! I firmly believe that Thou art one God in three Divine Persons, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; I believe that Thy Divine Son became man, and died for our sins, and that He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe these and all the truths, which the Holy Catholic Church teaches, because Thou hast revealed them, who canst neither deceive nor be deceived.

ACT OF HOPE

O my God! Relying on Thy infinite goodness and promises, I hope to obtain pardon of my sins, the help of Thy grace, and life everlasting, through the merits of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Redeemer.

ACT OF CONTRITION

O my God! I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins, because I dread the loss of heaven and the pains of hell, but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, who art all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace, to confess my sins, to do penance, and to amend my life.

ACT OF LOVE

O my God! I love Thee above all things, with my whole heart and soul, because Thou art all good and worthy of all love. I love my neighbor as myself for the love of Thee. I forgive all who have injured me, and ask pardon of all whom I have injured.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

O Jesus I turn toward the holy tabernacle where Thou livest hidden for love of me. I love Thee, O my God. I cannot receive Thee in Holy Communion. Come nevertheless and visit me with Thy grace. Come spiritually into my heart. Purify it. Sanctify it. Render it like unto Thine own. Amen.

Lord, I am not worthy that Thou shouldst enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

THE ANGELUS

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

R. And she conceived of the Holy Ghost. *Hail Mary, etc*

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. Be it done unto me according to Thy word. *Hail Mary, etc*

V. And the Word was made Flesh.

R. And dwelt among us. *Hail Mary, etc*

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray.

Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ, Thy Son, was made known by the message of an Angel, may by His passionate cross, be brought to the glory of His resurrection, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

REGINA COELI

(Said during Eastertide, instead of the Angelus)

Queen of heaven, rejoice. Alleluia

For He whom thou didst deserve to bear, Alleluia.

Hath risen as He said, Alleluia.

Pray for us to God, Alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad O Virgin Mary! Alleluia.

R. Because our Lord is truly risen. Alleluia.

Let us pray.

O God, who by the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, hast vouchsafed to make glad the whole world, grant, we beseech Thee, that, through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may attain the joys of eternal life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Three Hail Marys

DAILY ACTS OF CHARITY FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Sunday

O Lord God Almighty, I pray Thee, by the Precious Blood which Thy Divine Son Jesus shed in the garden, deliver the souls in purgatory, and especially that soul amongst them all who is most destitute of spiritual aid; and vouchsafe to bring it to Thy glory, there to praise and bless Thee forever. Amen.

Pater, Ave and De Profundis

Monday

O Lord God Almighty, I pray Thee, by the Precious Blood which Thy Divine Son Jesus shed in His cruel scourging, deliver the souls in purgatory, and that soul especially amongst them all which is nearest to its entrance into Thy glory; that so it may forthwith begin to praise and bless Thee forever. Amen.

Pater, Ave and De Profundis

Tuesday

O Lord God Almighty, I pray Thee, by the Precious Blood which Thy Divine Son Jesus shed in His bitter crowning with thorns, deliver the souls in purgatory, and in particular that one amongst them all which would be the last to depart out of these pains, that it may not tarry so long a time before it come to praise Thee in Thy glory and bless Thee forever. Amen.

Pater, Ave and De Profundis

Wednesday

O Lord God Almighty, I pray Thee, by the Precious Blood which Thy Divine Son Jesus shed in the streets of Jerusalem when He carried the cross upon His sacred shoulders, deliver the souls in purgatory, and especially that soul which is richest in merits before Thee; that so, in that throne of glory which awaits it, it may magnify Thee and bless Thee forever. Amen.

Pater, Ave and De Profundis

Thursday

O Lord God Almighty, I pray Thee by the Precious Body and Blood of Thy Divine Son Jesus, which He gave with His own Hand upon the eve of His Passion to His beloved apostles to be their meat and drink, and which He left to His whole Church to be a perpetual sacrifice and the life-giving food of His own faithful people, deliver the souls in purgatory, and especially that one which was most devoted to this Mystery of infinite love, that it may with the same Thy Divine Son, and with The Holy Spirit, ever praise Thee for Thy love therein in eternal glory. Amen.

Pater, Ave and De Profundis

Friday

O Lord God Almighty, I pray Thee, by the Precious Blood which Thy Divine Son shed upon the wood of the cross, especially from his most sacred Hands and Feet, deliver the souls in purgatory, and in particular that soul for which I am most bound to pray; that no neglect of mine may hinder it from praising Thee in Thy glory and blessing Thee forever. Amen.

Pater, Ave and De Profundis

Saturday

O Lord God Almighty, I beseech Thee, by the Precious Blood which gushed forth from the Side of Thy Divine Son Jesus, in the sight of, and to the extreme pain of his most holy Mother, deliver the souls in purgatory, and especially that one amongst them all which was the most devout to her; that it may soon attain unto Thy glory, there to praise Thee in her and her in Thee world without end. Amen.

Pater, Ave and De Profundis

De profundis clamavi ad te, Domine: * Domine, exaudi vocem meam.

*Fiant aures tuae intendentes: * in vocem deprecationis meae.*

*Si iniquitates observaveris, Domine: * Domine, quis sustinebit?*

*Quia apud te propitiatio est: * propter legem tuam sustinui te, Domine.*

*Sustinuit anima mea in verbum ejus: * speravit anima mea in Domino.*

*A custodia matutina usque ad noctem: * speret Israel in Domino.*

*Quia apud Dominum misericordia: * et copiosa apud eum redemptio.*

*Et ipse redimet Israel: * ex omnibus iniquitatibus ejus.*

*Requiem aeternam * dona eis, Domine.
Et lux perpetua luceat eis.
Requiescant in pace.
Amen.*

*V. Domine, exaudi orationem meam,
R. Et clamor meus ad te veniat.*

*Oremus.
Fidelium Deus omnium conditor et redemptor, animabus famulorum
famularumque tuarum remissionem cunctorum tribue peccatorum: ut
iudulgentiam, quam semper optaverunt, piis supplicationibus
consequantur. Qui vivis et regnas in saecula saeculorum. R. Amen.*

*V. Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine.
R. Et lux perpetua luceat eis.
V. Requiescant in pace.
R. Amen.*

Out of the depths I have cried unto Thee, O Lord, Lord, hear my voice.
Let Thine ears be attentive: to the voice of my supplication.
If Thou, O Lord, shalt mark our iniquities: O Lord, who can abide it?
For with Thee there is mercy: and by reason of Thy law I have waited on
Thee, O Lord.
My soul hath waited on His word: my soul hath hoped in the Lord.
From the morning watch even unto night: let Israel hope in the Lord.
For with the Lord there is mercy: and with Him is plenteous redemption.
And He shall redeem Israel: from all his iniquities.
Eternal rest give unto them, O Lord.
And let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace.
Amen.

*V. Lord, hear my prayer.
R. And let my cry come unto Thee.*

Let us pray.

O God, the Creator and Redeemer of all the faithful; grant to the souls of Thy
servants departed the remission of all their sins, that by our devout
supplications they may obtain that pardon which they have always desired.
Who livest and reignest world without end. Amen.

*V. Eternal rest give unto them, O Lord.
R. And let perpetual light shine upon them.
V. May they rest in peace.
R. Amen.*

ANGELIC TRISAGION

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts: the earth is full of thy glory.
Glory be to the Father, glory be to the Son, glory be to the Holy Ghost.

THE LITANY OF HUMILITY

O Jesus! meek and humble of heart, hear me.

From the desire of being esteemed,
From the desire of being loved,
From the desire of being extolled,
From the desire of being honored,
From the desire of being praised,
From the desire of being preferred,
From the desire of being consulted,
From the desire of being approved,

Deliver us, Jesus.

From the fear of being humiliated,
From the fear of being despised,
From the fear of suffering rebukes,
From the fear of being calumniated,
From the fear of being forgotten,
From the fear of being ridiculed,
From the fear of being wronged,
From the fear of being suspected,

Deliver us, Jesus.

That others may be loved more than I,
That others may be esteemed more than I,
That in the opinion of the world,
others may increase, and I may decrease,
That others may be chosen and I set aside,
That others may be praised and I unnoticed,
That others may be preferred to me in everything,
That others become holier than I,
provided that I may become as holy as I should,
Jesus, grant us the grace to desire it.

PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

O St. Joseph, Mary's pure bridegroom, who because of thy purity and love of justice wast chosen for the foster-father of Jesus Christ, do not leave me, I beseech thee, in my necessities and cares; ask for me the grace to live a just and pure life like thine, and grant, that I may obtain the happiness of dying, like thee, in the arms of Jesus and Mary. Amen.

GOOD NIGHT TO OUR BLESSED MOTHER

Night is falling dear Mother, the long day is o'er!
And before thy loved image I am kneeling once more
To thank thee for keeping me safe through the day,
To ask thee this night to keep evil away

Many times have I fallen today, Mother Dear,
Many graces neglected, since last I knelt here;
Wilt thou not in pity, my own Mother mild,
Ask Jesus to pardon the sins of thy child.

I am going to rest, for the day's work is done,
Its hours and its moments have passed one by one;
And the God who will judge me has noted them all,
He has numbered each grace, He has counted each fall.

In His book they are written against the last day,
O Mother, ask Jesus to wash them away;
For one drop of His blood which for sinners was spilt,
Is sufficient to cleanse the whole world of its guilt.

And if ere the dawn I should draw my last breath
And the sleep that I take be the long sleep of death,
Be near me, dear Mother, for dear Jesus' sake
When my soul on Eternity's shore shall awake

O Mary, who didst-come into this world free from stain!
Obtain of God for me that I may leave it without sin.

My queen! my mother! Remember I am thine own.
Keep me, guard me, as thy property and possession.

Hail Mary

Jesus, meek and humble of heart, make my heart like unto thine.

May the sacred heart of Jesus be loved everywhere!

The Way of the Cross

In the Roman Catholic tradition, the meditation on the Way (or the Stations) of the Cross is often performed in a spirit of reparation for the sufferings and insults that Jesus endured during His Passion (and those continually offered to Him by the sins of men).

The object of the stations is to help the faithful to make in spirit, as it were, a pilgrimage to the chief scenes of Christ's sufferings and death, and this has become one of the most popular of Catholic devotions. It is carried out by passing from station to station, with certain prayers at each and devout meditation on the various incidents in turn. It is common, when the devotion is performed publicly, to sing a stanza of the "Stabat Mater" while passing from one station to the next.

Begin at the high altar by making a [Perfect Act of Contrition](#)

All pray: My Lord Jesus Christ, Thou hast made this journey to die for me with love unutterable, and I have so many times unworthily abandoned Thee; but now I love Thee with my whole heart, and because I love Thee, I repent sincerely for ever having offended Thee. Pardon me, my God, and permit me to accompany Thee on this journey. Thou goest to die for love of me; I wish also, my beloved Redeemer, to die for love of Thee. My Jesus, I will live and die always united to Thee.

1st Station: Jesus is condemned to death

V. We adore thee O Christ and we praise thee (genuflect)

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world (rise)



Leader: Consider how Jesus, after having been scourged and crowned with thorns was unjustly condemned by Pilate to die on the Cross.

All pray: My adorable Jesus, it was not Pilate, no, it was my sins that condemned Thee to die. I beseech Thee, by the merits of this sorrowful journey, to assist my soul in its journey towards eternity. I love Thee, my beloved Jesus; I love Thee more than myself; I repent with my whole heart of having offended Thee. Never permit me to separate myself from Thee again. Grant that I may love Thee always, and then do with me what Thou wilt.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

V. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us!

At the cross her station keeping,
Stood the mournful Mother weeping,
Close to Jesus to the last.

2nd Station: Jesus carries His Cross

V. We adore thee O Christ and we praise thee (genuflect)

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world (rise)



Leader: Consider how Jesus, in making this journey with the Cross on His shoulders, thought of us and offered to His Father the death He was about to undergo.

All pray: My most beloved Jesus, I embrace all the tribulations Thou hast destined for me until death. I beseech Thee, by the merits of the pain Thou didst suffer in carrying Thy cross, to give me the necessary help to carry mine with perfect patience and resignation. I love Thee, Jesus, my love; I repent of having offended Thee. Never permit me to separate myself from Thee again. Grant that I may love Thee always, and then do with me what Thou wilt.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

V. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us!

Through her heart, His sorrow sharing,
All His bitter anguish bearing,
Now at length the sword has passed.

3rd Station: Jesus falls the first time

V. We adore thee O Christ and we praise thee (genuflect)

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world (rise)



Leader: Consider this first fall of Jesus under His Cross. His flesh was torn by the scourges, His head crowned with thorns, and He had lost a great quantity of blood. He was so weakened that He could scarcely walk, and yet He had to carry this great load upon His shoulders.

All pray: My beloved Jesus, it is not the weight of the cross, but of my sins, which have made Thee suffer so much pain. Ah, by the merits of this first fall, deliver me from the misfortune of falling into mortal sin. I love Thee, O my Jesus, with my whole heart; I repent of having offended Thee. Never permit me to offend Thee again. Grant that I may love Thee always, and then do with me what Thou wilt.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

V. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us!

Oh, how sad and sore distressed
Was that Mother highly blessed
Of the sole-begotten One!

4th Station: Jesus meets His sorrowful mother

V. We adore thee O Christ and we praise thee (genuflect)

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world (rise)



Leader: Consider the meeting of the Son and the mother, which took place on this journey. Jesus and Mary looked at each other and their looks became as so many arrows to wound those hearts, which loved each other so tenderly.

All pray: My most loving Jesus, by the sorrow Thou didst experience in this meeting, grant me the grace of a truly devoted love for Thy most holy Mother. And thou, my Queen, who wast overwhelmed with sorrow, obtain for me by thy intercession a continual and tender remembrance of the Passion of thy Son. I love Thee, Jesus, my love; I repent of ever having offended Thee. Never permit me to offend Thee again. Grant that I may love Thee always, and then do with me what Thou wilt.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

V. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us!

Christ above in torment hangs,
She beneath beholds the pangs
Of her dying, glorious Son.

5th Station: Simon helps Jesus to carry the Cross

V. We adore thee O Christ and we praise thee (genuflect)

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world (rise)



Leader: Consider how the Jews, seeing that at each step Jesus from weakness was on the point of expiring, and fearing that He would die on the way, when they wished Him to die the ignominious death on the Cross, constrained Simon the Cyrenian to carry the Cross behind our Lord.

All pray: My most sweet Jesus, I will not refuse the cross as the Cyrenian did; I accept it, I embrace it. I accept in particular the death that Thou hast destined for me, with all the pains that may accompany it. I unite it to Thy death; I offer it to Thee. Thou hast died for love of me! I will die for love of Thee, and to please Thee. Help me by Thy grace. I love Thee, Jesus, my love; I repent of having offended Thee. Never permit me to offend Thee again. Grant that I may love Thee always, and then do with me what Thou wilt.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

V. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us!

Is there one who would not weep
Whelmed in miseries so deep
Christ's dear Mother to behold?

6th Station: Veronica wipes the face of Jesus

V. We adore thee O Christ and we praise thee (genuflect)

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world (rise)



Leader: Consider how the holy woman named Veronica, seeing Jesus so afflicted, and His face bathed in sweat and blood, presented Him with a towel, with which He wiped His adorable face, leaving on it the impression of His holy countenance.

All pray: My most beloved Jesus, Thy face was beautiful before, but in this journey it has lost all its beauty, and wounds and blood have disfigured it. Alas! my soul also was once beautiful when it received Thy grace in Baptism, but I have disfigured it since by my sins. Thou alone, my Redeemer, canst restore it to its former beauty. Do this by Thy Passion, O Jesus. I repent of having offended Thee. Never permit me to offend Thee again. Grant that I may love Thee always, and then do with me what Thou wilt.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

V. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us!

Can the human heart refrain
From partaking in her pain,
In that Mother's pain untold?

7th Station: Jesus falls the second time

V. We adore thee O Christ and we praise thee (genuflect)

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world (rise)



Leader: Consider the second fall of Jesus under the Cross, a fall which renews the pain of all the wounds of the head and members of our afflicted Lord.

All pray: My most gentle Jesus, how many times Thou hast pardoned me, and how many times have I fallen again and begun again to offend Thee! Oh, by the merits of this new fall, give me the necessary helps to persevere in Thy grace until death. Grant that in all temptations which assail me I may always commend myself to Thee. I love Thee, Jesus, my love, with my whole heart; I repent of having offended Thee. Never permit me to offend Thee again. Grant that I may love Thee always, and then do with me what Thou wilt.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

V. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us!

Bruised, derided, cursed, defiled,
She beheld her tender Child,
All with bloody scourges rent.

8th Station: The women weep over Jesus

V. We adore thee O Christ and we praise thee (genuflect)

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world (rise)



Leader: Consider how those women wept with compassion at seeing Jesus in such a pitiable state, streaming with blood as He walked along. But Jesus said to them: “Weep not for me but for your children.”

All pray: My Jesus, laden with sorrows, I weep for the offences that I have committed against Thee because of the pains which they have deserved, and still more because of the displeasure which they have caused Thee, who hast loved me so much. It is Thy love, more than the fear of hell, which causes me to weep for my sins. My Jesus, I love Thee more than myself; I repent of having offended Thee. Never permit me to offend Thee again. Grant that I may love Thee always, and then do with me what Thou wilt.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be

V. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us!

For the sins of His own nation
Saw Him hang in desolation
Till His spirit forth He sent.

9th Station: Jesus falls the third time

V. We adore thee O Christ and we praise thee (genuflect)

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world (rise)



Consider the third fall of Jesus Christ. His weakness was extreme, and the cruelty of His executioners was excessive, who tried to hasten His step when He had scarcely strength to move.

All pray: Ah, my outraged Jesus, by the merits of the weakness that Thou didst suffer in going to Calvary, give me strength sufficient to conquer all human respect and all my wicked passions, which have led me to despise Thy friendship. I love Thee, Jesus, my love, with my whole heart; I repent of having offended Thee. Never permit me to offend Thee again. Grant that I may love Thee always, and then do with me what Thou wilt.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

V. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us!

O thou Mother! fount of love,
Touch my spirit from above.
Make my heart with thine accord.

10th Station: Jesus is stripped of His garments

V. We adore thee O Christ and we praise thee (genuflect)

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world (rise)



Consider the violence with which the executioners stripped Jesus. His inner garments adhered to His torn flesh, and they dragged them off so roughly that the skin came with them.

All pray: My innocent Jesus, by the merits of the torment which Thou hast felt, help me to strip myself of all affection to things of earth in order that I may place all my love in Thee, who art so worthy of my love. I love Thee, O Jesus, with my whole heart; I repent of having offended Thee. Never permit me to offend Thee again. Grant that I may love Thee always, and then do with me what Thou wilt.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

V. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us!

Make me feel as thou hast felt;
Make my soul to glow and melt
With the love of Christ, my Lord.

11th Station: Jesus is nailed to the Cross

V. We adore thee O Christ and we praise thee (genuflect)

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world (rise)



Consider how Jesus, after being thrown on the Cross, extended His hands and offered to His eternal Father the sacrifice of His death for our salvation. These barbarians fastened Him with nails, then raising the Cross, allowed Him to die in anguish.

All pray: My Jesus, loaded with contempt, nail my heart to Thy feet that it may ever remain there to love Thee and never quit Thee again. I love Thee more than myself; I repent of having offended Thee. Never permit me to offend Thee again. Grant that I may love Thee always, and then do with me what Thou wilt.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

V. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us!

Holy Mother, pierce me through!

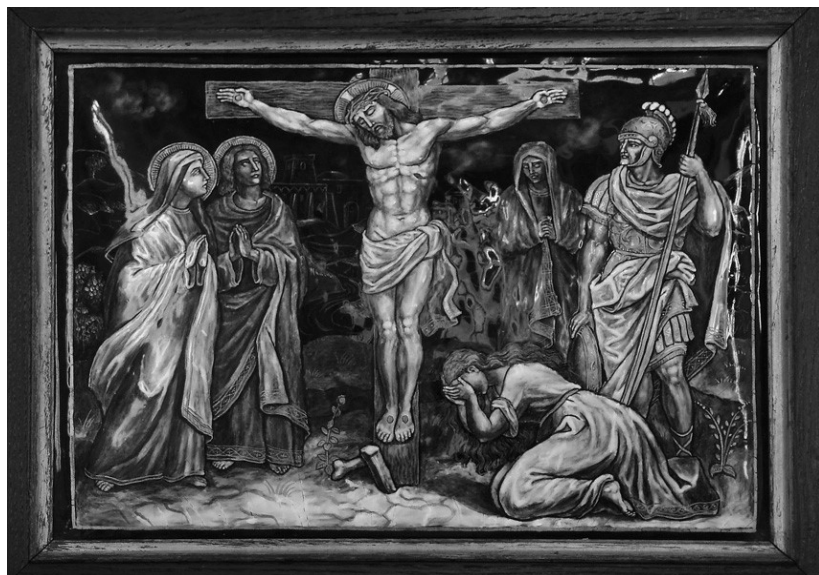
In my heart each wound renew

Of my Savior crucified.

12th Station: Jesus dies on the Cross

V. We adore thee O Christ and we praise thee (genuflect)

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world (rise)



Consider how Jesus, after three hours of agony on the Cross, consumed at length with anguish, abandons Himself to the weight of His body, bows His head and dies.

All pray: O my dying Jesus, I kiss devoutly the cross on which Thou didst die for love of me. I have merited by my sins to die a miserable death, but Thy death is my hope. Ah, by the merits of Thy death, give me grace to die embracing Thy feet and burning with love for Thee. I commit my soul into Thy hands. I love Thee with my whole heart; I repent of ever having offended Thee. Never permit me to offend Thee again. Grant that I may love Thee always, and then do with me what Thou wilt.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

V. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us!

Let me share with thee His pain,
Who for all our sins was slain,
Who for me in torments died.

13th Station: Jesus is taken down from the Cross

V. We adore thee O Christ and we praise thee (genuflect)

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world (rise)



Leader: Consider how, after the death of our Lord, two of His disciples, Joseph and Nicodemus, took Him down from the Cross, and placed Him in the arms of His afflicted mother, who received Him with unutterable tenderness.

All pray: O Mother of Sorrow, for the love of this Son, accept me for thy servant and pray to Him for me. And Thou, my Redeemer, since Thou hast died for me, permit me to love Thee; for I wish but Thee, my Jesus, and I repent of ever having offended Thee. Never permit me to offend Thee again. Grant that I may love Thee always, and then do with me what Thou wilt.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

V. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us!

Let me mingle tears with thee,
Mourning Him who mourned for me,
All the days that I may live.

14th Station: Jesus is laid in the sepulcher

V. We adore thee O Christ and we praise thee (genuflect)

R. Because by thy holy cross thou hast redeemed the world (rise)



Leader: Consider how the disciples carried the body of Jesus to bury it, accompanied by His holy mother, who arranged it in the sepulcher with her own hands. They then closed the tomb and all withdrew.

All pray: Ah, my buried Jesus, I kiss the stone that encloses Thee. But Thou didst rise again the third day. I beseech Thee, by Thy resurrection, make my soul rise to Thee in heaven at my death and make my body rise glorious at the Last Day, that I may praise Thee and love Thee forever. I love Thee, and I repent of ever having offended Thee. Never permit me to offend Thee again. Grant that I may love Thee always, and then do with me what Thou wilt.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

V. Lord Jesus, crucified.

R. Have mercy on us!

By the cross with thee to stay,
There with thee to weep and pray,
Is all I ask of thee to give.

PRAYER TO JESUS CRUCIFIED

Behold, O kind and most sweet Jesus, I cast myself on my knees in Thy sight, and with the most fervent desire of my soul I pray and beseech The that Thou wouldst impress upon my heart lively sentiments of faith, hope and charity, with true repentance for my sins, and a firm desire of amendment, whilst with deep affection and grief of soul I ponder within myself, and mentally contemplate Thy five precious wounds: having before my eyes that which David spoke in prophecy: "They pierced my hands and my feet; they have numbered all my bones."

Five Paters, Five Aves, and Te Ergo

Pope Pius VII, Feb. 7, 1817, - An indulgence of 300 days, to all the faithful who, being contrite in heart, and devoutly meditating on the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ, shall say in suffrage for the faithful departed:

5 Pater Nosters and 5 Ave Marias

With the versicle:

Te ergo quaesumus, tuis famulis subveni, quos pretioso sanguine redemisti.

Eternal Father, we pray Thee help the souls of Thy servants, whom Thou hast redeemed with the blood of Jesus Christ.

And:

V. Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine.

R. Et lux perpetua luceat eis.

V. Requiescant in pace.

R. Amen.

V. Eternal rest give unto them, O Lord.

R. And let perpetual light shine upon them.

V. May they rest in peace.

R. Amen.

(A plenary indulgence and remission of all sins to all who shall have practiced this pious exercise every day for a month, on any one day in each month when, being repentant, they shall, after Confession and Communion, pray for our holy Mother the Church, &c., and for the eternal repose of the departed.)

NOVENA TO THE HOLY GHOST

The novena to the Holy Ghost is the oldest novena, first made at the direction of Our Lord when He sent His apostles back to Jerusalem to await the coming of the Holy Ghost on the first Pentecost. It is the only novena officially prescribed by the Church. Addressed to the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity, it is a powerful plea for the light, strength and love so sorely needed by every Christian, and which comes only from God.

ACT OF CONSECRATION TO THE HOLY GHOST

On my knees before the great multitude of heavenly witnesses, I offer myself, soul and body to Thee, Eternal Spirit of God. I adore the brightness of Thy purity, the unerring keenness of Thy justice, and the might of Thy love. Thou art the Strength and Light of my soul. In Thee I live and move and am. I desire never to grieve Thee by unfaithfulness to grace, and I pray with all my heart to be kept from the smallest sin against Thee. Mercifully guard my every thought and grant that I may always watch for Thy light and listen to Thy voice and follow Thy gracious inspirations. I cling to Thee and give myself to Thee and ask Thee by Thy compassion to watch over me in my weakness. Holding the pierced Feet of Jesus and looking at His Five Wounds and trusting in His Precious Blood and adoring His opened Side and stricken Heart, I implore Thee Adorable Spirit, helper of my infirmity, so to keep me in Thy grace that I may never sin against Thee. Give me grace O Holy Ghost, Spirit of the Father and the Son, to say to Thee always and everywhere, "speak Lord, for Thy servant heareth." Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE SEVEN GIFTS OF THE HOLY GHOST

O Lord Jesus Christ, Who, before ascending into heaven, didst promise to send the Holy Ghost to finish Thy work in the souls of Thy Apostles and disciples, deign to grant the same Holy Spirit to me, that He may perfect in my soul the work of Thy grace and Thy love. Grant me the Spirit of Wisdom that I may despise the perishable things of this world and aspire only after the things that are eternal, the Spirit of Understanding to enlighten my mind with the light of Thy divine truth, the Spirit of Counsel that I may ever choose the surest way of pleasing God and gaining Heaven, the Spirit of Fortitude that I may bear my cross with Thee, and that I may overcome with courage all the obstacles that oppose my salvation, the Spirit of Knowledge that I may know God and know myself and grow perfect in the science of the Saints, the Spirit of Piety that I may find the service of God sweet and amiable, the Spirit of Fear that I may be filled with a loving reverence towards God, and may dread in any way to displease Him. Mark me, dear Lord, with the sign of Thy true disciples and animate me in all things with Thy Spirit. Amen.

First Day: The Holy Ghost

Holy Spirit! Lord of light!
From Thy clear celestial height,
Thy pure beaming radiance give!

Reflection: Only one thing is important -- eternal salvation. Only one thing, therefore, is to be feared -- sin. Sin is the result of ignorance, weakness, and indifference. The Holy Ghost is the Spirit of Light, of Strength, and of Love. With His sevenfold gifts, He enlightens the mind, strengthens the will, and inflames the heart with love of God. To ensure our salvation, we ought to invoke the Divine Spirit daily, for "The Spirit helpeth our infirmity. We know not what we should pray for as we ought. But the Spirit Himself asketh for us.

Almighty and eternal God, Who hast vouchsafed to regenerate us by water and the Holy Ghost, and hast given us forgiveness of all our sins, vouchsafe to send forth from heaven upon us Thy sevenfold Spirit, the Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding, the Spirit of Counsel and Fortitude, the Spirit of Knowledge and Piety, and fill us with the Spirit of Holy Fear. Amen.

Our Father
Hail Mary
7 Glory Bes
Act of Consecration to the Holy Ghost
Prayer for the Seven Gifts of the Holy Ghost

Second Day: The Gift of Fear

Come, Thou Father of the poor!
Come, with treasures which endure!
Come, Thou Light of all that live!

Reflection: The gift of Fear fills us with a sovereign respect for God, and makes us dread nothing so much as to offend Him by Sin. It is a fear that arises, not from the thought of hell, but from sentiments of reverence and filial submission to our heavenly Father. It is the fear that is the beginning of wisdom, detaching us from worldly pleasures that could in any way separate us from God. "They that fear the Lord will prepare their hearts, and in His sight will sanctify their souls."

Come, O blessed Spirit of Holy Fear, penetrate my inmost heart, that I may set Thee, my Lord and God, before my face forever; help me to shun all things that can offend Thee, and make me worthy to appear before the pure eyes of Thy Divine Majesty in heaven, where Thou livest and reignest in the unity of the ever Blessed Trinity, God world without end. Amen.

Our Father
Hail Mary
7 Glory Bes
Act of Consecration to the Holy Ghost
Prayer for the Seven Gifts of the Holy Ghost

Third Day: The Gift of Piety

Thou, of all consolers best,
Visiting the troubled breast
Dost refreshing peace bestow

Reflection: The gift of Piety begets in our hearts a filial affection for God as our most loving Father. It inspires us to love and respect for His sake persons and things consecrated to Him, as well as those who are vested with His authority, His Blessed Mother and the Saints, the Church and its visible Head, our parents and superiors, our country and its rulers. He who is filled with the gift of Piety finds the practice of his religion, not a burdensome duty, but a delightful service. Where there is love, there is no labor.

Come, O Blessed Spirit of Piety, possess my heart. Enkindle therein such a love for God, that I may find satisfaction only in His service, and for His sake lovingly submit to all legitimate authority. Amen.

Our Father
Hail Mary
7 Glory Bes
Act of Consecration to the Holy Ghost
Prayer for the Seven Gifts of the Holy Ghost

Fourth Day: The Gift of Fortitude

Thou in toil art comfort sweet
Pleasant coolness in the heat;
Solace in the midst of woe.

Reflection: By the gift of Fortitude, the soul is strengthened against natural fear, and supported to the end in the performance of duty. Fortitude imparts to the will an impulse and energy which move it to undertake without hesitancy the most arduous tasks, to face dangers, to trample under foot human respect, and to endure without complaint the slow martyrdom of even lifelong tribulation. "He that shall persevere unto the end, he shall be saved."

Come, O Blessed Spirit of Fortitude, uphold my soul in times of trouble and adversity, sustain my efforts after holiness, strengthen my weakness, give me courage against all the assaults of my enemies, that I may never be overcome and separated from Thee, my God and greatest Good. Amen.

Our Father
Hail Mary
7 Glory Bes
Act of Consecration to the Holy Ghost
Prayer for the Seven Gifts of the Holy Ghost

Fifth Day: The Gift of Knowledge

Light immortal! Light Divine!
Visit Thou these hearts of Thine,
And our inmost being fill.

Reflection: The gift of Knowledge enables the soul to evaluate created things at their true worth -- in relation to God. Knowledge unmaskes the pretense of creatures, reveals their emptiness, and points out their only true purpose as instruments in the service of God. It shows us the loving care of God even in adversity, and directs us to glorify Him in every circumstance of life. Guided by its light, we put first things first, and prize the friendship of God beyond all else. "Knowledge is a fountain of life to him that possesseth it."

Come, O Blessed Spirit of Knowledge, and grant that I may perceive the will of the Father; show me the nothingness of earthly things, that I may realize their vanity and use them only for Thy glory and my own salvation, looking ever beyond them to Thee, and Thy eternal rewards. Amen.

Our Father
Hail Mary
7 Glory Bes
Act of Consecration to the Holy Ghost
Prayer for the Seven Gifts of the Holy Ghost

Sixth Day: The Gift of Understanding

If Thou take Thy grace away,
Nothing pure in man will stay,
All his good is turn'd to ill.

Reflection: Understanding, as a gift of the Holy Ghost, helps us to grasp the meaning of the truths of our holy religion. By faith we know them, but by Understanding we learn to appreciate and relish them. It enables us to penetrate the inner meaning of revealed truths and through them to be quickened to newness of life. Our faith ceases to be sterile and inactive, but inspires a mode of life that bears eloquent testimony to the faith that is in us; we begin to "walk worthy of God in all things pleasing, and increasing in the knowledge of God."

Come, O Spirit of Understanding, and enlighten our minds, that we may know and believe all the mysteries of salvation; and may merit at last to see the eternal light in Thy light; and in the light of glory to have a clear vision of Thee and the Father and the Son. Amen.

Our Father

Hail Mary

7 Glory Bes

Act of Consecration to the Holy Ghost

Prayer for the Seven Gifts of the Holy Ghost

Seventh Day: The Gift of Counsel

Heal our wounds - our strength renew;
On our dryness pour Thy dew;
Wash the stains of guilt away!

Reflection: The gift of Counsel endows the soul with supernatural prudence, enabling it to judge promptly and rightly what must be done, especially in difficult circumstances. Counsel applies the principles furnished by Knowledge and Understanding to the innumerable concrete cases that confront us in the course of our daily duty as parents, teachers, public servants and Christian citizens. Counsel is supernatural common sense, a priceless treasure in the quest of salvation. "Above all these things, pray to the Most High, that He may direct thy way in truth."

Come, O Spirit of Counsel, help and guide me in all my ways, that I may always do Thy holy will. Incline my heart to that which is good; turn it away from all that is evil, and direct me by the straight path of Thy commandments to that goal of eternal life for which I long. Amen.

Our Father
Hail Mary
7 Glory Bes
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Eighth Day: The Gift of Wisdom

Bend the stubborn heart and will;
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;
Guide the steps that go astray!

Reflection: Embodying all the other gifts, as charity embraces all other virtues, Wisdom is the most perfect of the gifts. Of wisdom it is written "all good things came to me with her, and innumerable riches through her hands." It is the gift of Wisdom that strengthens our faith, fortifies hope, perfects charity, and promotes the practice of virtue in the highest degree. Wisdom enlightens the mind to discern and relish things divine, in the appreciation of which earthly joys lose their savor, whilst the Cross of Christ yields a divine sweetness according to the words of the Savior: "Take up thy cross and follow Me, for My yoke is sweet, and My burden light."

Come, O Spirit of Wisdom, and reveal to my soul the mysteries of heavenly things, their exceeding greatness, power and beauty. Teach me to love them above and beyond all passing joys and satisfactions of the earth. Help me to attain them and possess them for ever. Amen.

Our Father

Hail Mary

7 Glory Bes

Act of Consecration to the Holy Ghost

Prayer for the Seven Gifts of the Holy Ghost

Ninth Day: The Fruits of the Holy Ghost

Thou, on those who evermore
Thee confess and Thee adore,
In Thy sevenfold gifts, descend:
Give them comfort when they die;
Give them life with Thee on high;
Give them joy which never ends. Amen.

Reflection: The gifts of the Holy Ghost perfect the supernatural virtues by enabling us to practice them with greater docility to divine inspiration. As we grow in the knowledge and love of God under the direction of the Holy Ghost, our service becomes more sincere and generous, the practice of virtue more perfect. Such acts of virtue leave the heart filled with joy and consolation and are known as Fruits of the Holy Ghost. These fruits in turn render the practice of virtue more attractive and become a powerful incentive for still greater efforts in the service of God, to serve Whom is to reign.

Come, O Divine Spirit, fill my heart with Thy heavenly fruits, Thy charity, joy, peace, patience, benignity, goodness, faith, mildness, and temperance, that I may never weary in the service of God, but by continued faithful submission to Thy inspiration, may merit to be united eternally with Thee in the love of the Father and the Son. Amen.

Our Father
Hail Mary
7 Glory Bes
Act of Consecration to the Holy Ghost
Prayer for the Seven Gifts of the Holy Ghost

PRAYER TO THE HOLY GHOST

Come, Holy Ghost, fill the hearts of Thy faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of Thy love. Send forth Thy Spirit and they shall be created, and Thou shalt renew the face of the earth. Oh God Who didst instruct the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Ghost, grant us in the same Spirit to be truly wise and to ever rejoice in His consolations, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

LITANY OF THE HOLY GHOST

Lord, have mercy on us.
Christ, have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us.

Father all powerful, *have mercy on us*
Jesus, Eternal Son of the Father, Redeemer of the world, *save us.*
Spirit of the Father and the Son, boundless life of both, *sanctify us.*
Holy Trinity, *hear us*

Holy Ghost, Who proceedest from the Father and the Son, *enter our hearts.*
Holy Ghost, Who art equal to the Father and the Son, *enter our hearts.*

Promise of God the Father, *have mercy on us.*
Ray of heavenly light, *have mercy on us*
Author of all good, *have mercy on us*
Source of heavenly water, *have mercy on us*
Consuming fire, *have mercy on us*
Ardent charity, *have mercy on us*
Spiritual unction, *have mercy on us*
Spirit of love and truth, *have mercy on us*
Spirit of wisdom and understanding, *have mercy on us*
Spirit of counsel and fortitude, *have mercy on us*
Spirit of knowledge and piety, *have mercy on us*
Spirit of the fear of the Lord, *have mercy on us*
Spirit of grace and prayer, *have mercy on us*
Spirit of peace and meekness, *have mercy on us*
Spirit of modesty and innocence, *have mercy on us*
Holy Ghost, the Comforter, *have mercy on us*
Holy Ghost, the Sanctifier, *have mercy on us*
Holy Ghost, Who governest the Church, *have mercy on us*
Gift of God, the Most High, *have mercy on us*
Spirit Who fillest the universe, *have mercy on us*
Spirit of the adoption of the children of God, *have mercy on us*

Holy Ghost, *inspire us with horror of sin.*
Holy Ghost, *come and renew the face of the earth.*
Holy Ghost, *shed Thy light in our souls.*
Holy Ghost, *engrave Thy law in our hearts*
Holy Ghost, *inflame us with the flame of Thy love.*
Holy Ghost, *open to us the treasures of Thy graces*
Holy Ghost, *teach us to pray well.*
Holy Ghost, *enlighten us with Thy heavenly inspirations.*
Holy Ghost, *lead us in the way of salvation*
Holy Ghost, *grant us the only necessary knowledge.*

Holy Ghost, *inspire in us the practice of good.*
Holy Ghost, *grant us the merits of all virtues.*
Holy Ghost, *make us persevere in justice.*
Holy Ghost, *be Thou our everlasting reward.*

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, *Send us Thy Holy Ghost.*

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, *pour down into our souls the gifts of the Holy Ghost.*

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, *grant us the Spirit of wisdom and piety.*

V. Come, Holy Ghost! Fill the hearts of Thy faithful,
R. And enkindle in them the fire of Thy love.

Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful Father, that Thy Divine Spirit may enlighten, inflame and purify us, that He may penetrate us with His heavenly dew and make us fruitful in good works, through Our Lord Jesus Christ, Thy Son, Who with Thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, liveth and reigneth forever and ever.

R. Amen.

**LITANY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
(LITANY OF LORETO)**

Lord, have mercy on us
Christ have mercy on us.
Lord, have mercy on us, Christ hear us.
Christ, graciously hear us.

God the Father of Heaven, *have mercy on us.*
God the Son, Redeemer of the world, *have mercy on us*
God the Holy Ghost, *have mercy on us.*
Holy Trinity, One God, *have mercy on us.*

Holy Mary, *pray for us*
Holy Mother of God, *pray for us.*
Holy Virgin of virgins, *pray for us.*
Mother of Christ, *pray for us.*
Mother of Divine grace, *pray for us.*
Mother most pure, *pray for us.*
Mother most chaste, *pray for us.*
Mother inviolate, *pray for us.*
Mother undefiled, *pray for us.*
Mother most amiable, *pray for us.*
Mother most admirable, *pray for us.*
Mother of good counsel, *pray for us.*
Mother of our Creator, *pray for us.*
Mother of our Saviour, *pray for us.*
Mother of the Church, *pray for us.*
Virgin most prudent, *pray for us.*
Virgin most venerable, *pray for us.*
Virgin most renowned, *pray for us.*
Virgin most powerful, *pray for us.*
Virgin most merciful, *pray for us.*
Virgin most faithful, *pray for us.*
Preparation for Consecration, *pray for us.*
Mirror of justice, *pray for us.*
Seat of wisdom, *pray for us.*
Cause of our joy, *pray for us.*
Vessel of honor, *pray for us.*
Singular vessel of devotion, *pray for us.*
Mystical rose, *pray for us.*
Tower of David, *pray for us.*
Tower of ivory, *pray for us.*
House of gold, *pray for us.*
Ark of the covenant, *pray for us.*
Gate of Heaven, *pray for us.*

Morning star, *pray for us.*
Health of the sick, *pray for us.*
Refuge of sinners, *pray for us.*
Comforter of the afflicted, *pray for us.*
Help of Christians, *pray for us.*
Queen of angels, *pray for us.*
Queen of patriarchs, *pray for us.*
Queen of prophets, *pray for us.*
Queen of Apostles, *pray for us.*
Queen of martyrs, *pray for us.*
Queen of confessors, *pray for us.*
Queen of virgins, *pray for us.*
Queen of all saints, *pray for us.*
Queen conceived without Original Sin, *pray for us.*
Queen assumed into Heaven, *pray for us.*
Queen of the most holy Rosary, *pray for us.*

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, *Spare us, O Lord.*
Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, *Graciously hear us, O Lord.*
Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, *Have mercy on us.*

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray.
Grant, we beseech Thee, O Lord God, unto us Thy servants, that we may rejoice in continual health of mind and body, and by the glorious intercession of Blessed Mary, ever virgin, may be delivered from present sadness, and enter into the joy of Thine eternal gladness. Through Christ Our Lord.

R. Amen

LITANY OF THE MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS

Lord, have mercy on us.

Christ, have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy on us. Jesus, hear us.

Jesus, graciously hear us.

God the Father of Heaven, *have mercy on us.*

God the Son, Redeemer of the world, *have mercy on us.*

God the Holy Ghost, *have mercy on us.*

Holy Trinity, One God, have mercy on us.

Jesus, Son of the living God, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, splendor of the Father, have mercy on us.

Jesus, brightness of eternal light, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, King of glory, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, sun of justice, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, Son of the Virgin Mary, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, most amiable, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, most admirable, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, mighty God, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, Father of the world to come, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, angel of great counsel, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, most powerful, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, most patient, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, most obedient, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, meek and humble, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, lover of chastity, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, lover of us, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, God of peace, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, author of life, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, model of virtues, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, lover of souls, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, our God, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, our refuge, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, Father of the poor, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, treasure of the faithful, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, Good Shepherd, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, true light, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, eternal wisdom, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, infinite goodness, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, our way and our life, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, joy of angels, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, King of patriarchs, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, master of Apostles, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, teacher of Evangelists, *have mercy on us.*

Jesus, strength of martyrs, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, light of confessors, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, purity of virgins, *have mercy on us.*
Jesus, crown of all saints, *have mercy on us.*

Be merciful, *spare us, O Jesus.*
Be merciful, *graciously hear us, O Jesus.*

From all evil, *Jesus, deliver us.*
From all sin, *Jesus, deliver us.*
From Thy wrath, *Jesus, deliver us.*
From the snares of the devil, *Jesus, deliver us.*
From the spirit of fornication, *Jesus, deliver us.*
From everlasting death, *Jesus, deliver us.*
From the neglect of Thine inspirations, *Jesus, deliver us.*

Through the mystery of Thy holy Incarnation, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through Thy nativity, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through Thine infancy, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through Thy most Divine life, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through Thy labors, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through Thine agony and Passion, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through Thy cross and dereliction, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through Thy sufferings, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through Thy death and burial, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through Thy Resurrection, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through Thine Ascension, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through Thine institution of the most Holy Eucharist, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through Thy joys, *Jesus, deliver us.*
Through Thy glory, *Jesus, deliver us.*

Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, *Spare us, O Jesus.*
Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world,
Graciously hear us, O Jesus.
Lamb of God, Who takest away the sins of the world, *Have mercy on us.*
Jesus, hear us, *Jesus, graciously hear us.*

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Who hast said: Ask and ye shall receive, seek and ye shall find, knock and it shall be opened unto you; grant, we beseech Thee, to us who ask the gift of Thy Divine love, that we may ever love Thee with all our hearts, and in all our words and actions, and never cease from praising Thee. Give us, O Lord, a perpetual fear and love of Thy holy Name; for Thou never failest to govern those whom Thou dost solidly establish in Thy love, Who livest and reignest world without end. R. Amen.

TE DEUM

We praise Thee, O God; we acclaim Thee Lord and Master. Everlasting Father, all the world bows down before Thee. All the angels sing Thy praise, the hosts of heaven and all the angelic Powers; All the Cherubim and Seraphim call out to Thee in unending chorus: Holy, Holy, Holy, Is the Lord God of Angel hosts! The heavens and the earth are filled, Lord, with Thy majesty and Glory. Thy praises are sung by the renowned Apostles; By all the prophets, who themselves deserve our praise; By that mighty white-robed army who shed their blood for Christ. And to the ends of the earth the Holy Church proclaims Her faith in Thee: Father, Whose majesty is boundless; Thy only Son, Who is true God, and Who is to be adored; The Holy Ghost, sent to be our Advocate. O Christ, the King of glory! Thou alone are the Father's eternal Son. When Thou wast to become man so as to save mankind, Thou didst not shrink back from the chaste Virgin's womb.

When Thou triumphantly destroyed death's sting, Thou opened up to believers the kingdom of heaven. Thou art now enthroned at God's right hand, in the Father's glory. We believe that Thou wilt come for judgment.

We therefore implore Thee to grant Thy servants grace and aid, for Thou shed Thy precious blood for their redemption. Admit them all to the ranks of Thy Saints in everlasting glory. Be the Savior of Thy faithful people, Lord; grant them Thy blessing, for they belong to Thee. Be their Shepherd, Lord, up-hold and exalt them forever and ever.

Day by day we praise Thee, daily we acclaim Thee. We will confess and glorify Thy holy Name, now and for all eternity. In Thy great mercy, Lord, throughout this day keep us free from sin by Thy protection. Have mercy on us, we humbly pray; Lord, have mercy on us. May Thy mercy, Lord, Thy loving kindness, always remain with us; for we have placed our confidence in Thee. In Thee alone, Lord, I have hoped; may I not be disappointed.

Glory Be

CANTICLE OF ZACHARY

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, because he hath visited and wrought the redemption of his people: And hath raised up an horn of salvation to us, in the house of David his servant: As he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets, who are from the beginning: Salvation from our enemies, and from the hand of all that hate us: To perform mercy to our fathers, and to remember his holy testament, the oath, which he swore to Abraham our father, that he would grant to us, that being delivered from the hand of our enemies, we may serve him without fear, in holiness and justice before him, all our days. And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways: To give knowledge of salvation to his people, unto the remission of their sins: Through the bowels of the mercy of our God, in which the Orient from on high hath visited us: To enlighten them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death: to direct our feet into the way of peace.

Glory Be

MAGNIFICAT

MY soul doth magnify the Lord; And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior, Because he hath regarded the humility of his handmaid: for behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed, Because he that is mighty hath done great things to me, and holy is his name, And his mercy is from generation unto generation to those that fear him. He hath showed might in his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the conceit of their heart. He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble. He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he hath sent away empty. He hath received Israel, his servant, being mindful of his mercy, As he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.

Glory Be

LOUIS DE MONTFORT'S PRAYER TO MARY

Hail Mary, beloved Daughter of the Eternal Father! Hail Mary, admirable Mother of the Son! Hail Mary, faithful spouse of the Holy Ghost! Hail Mary, my dear Mother, my loving Mistress, my powerful sovereign! Hail my joy, my glory, my heart and my soul! Thou art all mine by mercy, and I am all thine by justice. But I am not yet sufficiently thine. I now give myself wholly to thee without keeping anything back for myself or others. If thou still seest in me anything which does not belong to thee, I beseech thee to take it and to make thyself the absolute Mistress of all that is mine. Destroy in me all that may be displeasing to God, root it up and bring it to naught; place and cultivate in me everything that is pleasing to thee.

May the light of thy faith dispel the darkness of my mind; may thy profound humility take the place of my pride; may thy sublime contemplation check the distractions of my wandering imagination; may thy continuous sight of God fill my memory with His presence; may the burning love of thy heart inflame the lukewarmness of mine; may thy virtues take the place of my sins; may thy merits be my only adornment in the sight of God and make up for all that is wanting in me.

Finally, dearly beloved Mother, grant, if it be possible, that I may have no other spirit but thine to know Jesus and His Divine will; that I may have no other soul but thine to praise and glorify the Lord; that I may have no other heart but thine to love God with a love as pure and ardent as thine I do not ask thee for visions, revelations, sensible devotion or spiritual pleasures. It is thy privilege to see God clearly; it is thy privilege to enjoy heavenly bliss; it is thy privilege to triumph gloriously in Heaven at the right hand of thy Son and to hold absolute sway over angels, men and demons; it is thy privilege to dispose of all the gifts of God, just as thou wilt.

Such is, O heavenly Mary, the "best part," which the Lord has given thee and which shall never be taken away from thee-and this thought fills my heart with joy. As for my part here below, I wish for no other than that which was thine: to believe sincerely without spiritual pleasures; to suffer joyfully without human consolation; to die continually to myself without respite; and to work zealously and unselfishly for thee until death as the humblest of thy servants. The only grace I beg thee to obtain for me is that every day and every moment of my life I may say: Amen, so be it's all that thou didst do while on earth; Amen, so be it's all that thou art now doing in Heaven; Amen, so be it-to all that thou art doing in my soul, so that thou alone mayest fully glorify Jesus in me for time and eternity. Amen.